MASS. LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. 8 Otis Place Scituate, MA 02066-1323 Tel (781) 545-6984 Fax (781) 545-7837

WEBSITE: www.lobstermen.com E-MAIL: mla@lobstermen.com



United we Stand

ANNUAL WEEKEND & LOBSTER TRADE SHOW 2003

January 23-26, 2003 Forms Inside - MasterCard & VISA accepted





DECEMBER 2002

THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES, DEALERS, AND POUNDS ARE CURRENT, FULL \$100.00 SUPPORTING MEMBERS OF MLA. WE ENCOURAGE OUR MEMBERS TO PATRONIZE THEM WHENEVER POSSIBLE. THEIR SUPPORT HELPS US TO ACCOMPLISH OUR GOALS. IF YOUR COMPANY IS NOT LISTED IN THIS LISTING AND YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO BE, PLEASE CONTACT PEGGY DUPONT AT 781-545-6984

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BUY - SELL - SWAP (DEC2002)

PLEASE NOTE: ALL ADS WILL RUN FOR 4 MONTHS ONLY AND THEN WILL BE REMOVED. ALL F/N ADS WILL RUN FOR 6 MONTHS. IF YOU WANT YOUR AD TO RUN LONGER YOU MUST CALL BEFORE THE DEADLINE TO RENEW IT.

#1750 (F/N)

LOBSTER TRAPS - 4 FT. FISHED 6 MONTHS ON MUD BOTTOM. \$40.00 - CALL 508-822-0830

#1795 (F/N)

WALTERS KEEL COOLERS FROM H&H. 8 TUBES (+4 EXTRA'S) 5-FT LONG. SINGLE INLET / 2" PIPE IN + OUT. USED ON 300+ HP CAT ENGINE. CALL CHUCK 781-335-5356 ASKING \$1,200 OR BEST OFFER.

#1887 (9/02)

22 FT BOSTON WHALER, 175 JOHNSON, CUSTOM PHONE BOOTH STEERING STATION, SWIVEL ROD HOLDERS, LORAN, RADIO. \$9,500. WORTH MUCH MORE 781-837-5424

#1888 (9/02)

LOOKING FOR USED TRAPS 3-4 FOOT \$20. 978-281-1744

#1889 (9/02)

1980 34' LOBSTER BOAT, 3208 CAT, WOODEN AND SOLID, FIBERGLASS TOPSIDES, BATTEN SEAM CONSTRUCTED, STAINLESS STEEL FASTENED. \$25,000 781-821-2043

#1890 (9/02)

SELF-CONTAINED LOBSTER TANK, CHILLER LOCATED UNDER TANK, HOLDS APPROX 200 LBS. \$1,200 781-821-2043

#1892 (9/02)

44' STANLEY LOBSTER BOAT, 1978, V8 - 71 GM RECENTLY REBUILT. TD MG-509 WITH TROLLING VALVE. BELOW-DECK TANKS. SPLIT PILOT HOUSE, NEW EPIRB, 6-MAN SWITLIK LIFE RAFT. DIESEL-FIRED TRAP COOKER. LIMITED ACCESS LOBSTER, SCUP AND BLACK SEA BASS PERMITS. \$130,000 WITH PERMITS. WILL SEPARATE. ALSO 48x24x15 FRIENDSHIP TRAPS AVAILABLE. CALL DICK ALLEN AT 401-789-1463

#1893 (9/02)

21' PRIVATEER W/175 EVINRUDE AND A DUAL AXLE ROLL ON TRAILER. RIGGED FOR TUNA FISHING. 9 SWIVEL ROD HOLDERS, 40 GAL. LIVEWELL, LORAN, GPS, VHF, FURUNO FCV-667 COLOR SOUNDER, REMOTE SPOTLIGHT, WASHDOWN HOSE, CAT.II EPIRB, REVERE IBA RAFT, FLARE KIT AND LIFE RING. ASKING \$16,900 OR BEST OFFER. 978-282-4663

#1894 (9/02)

WANTED
MASS COASTAL LOBSTER LICENSE
978-281-1816

#1895 (9/02)

31' 1992 BHM, CUMMINGS 210 DIESEL, 12" STAINLESS STEEL HAULER, DIRECT DRIVE, LARGE PUMP & TANK, FULL ELECTRONICS, RADAR, WASHDOWN PUMP, BUILT IN HEAD. \$55,000 COASTAL MA LOBSTER LICENSE \$5,000 WITH BOAT, \$8,000 ALONE. USED TRAPS \$20 EA. WITH ROPES.

1992 FORD F150 XLT TRUCK, 302 ENGINE, AUTOMATIC, NEW ENGINE & TRANS. 100 MILES ON NEW ENGINE. \$1,995

CALL 781-383-1160

#1896 (9/02)

BAIT

COWHIDE 5-GAL PAILS. \$65. EACH CALL TIM AT 781-834-6733

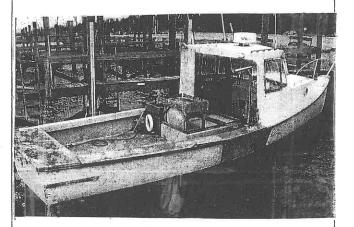
#1897 (9/02)

INSHORE OLD LOBSTER PERMITS. NOTE: PERSON WHO BUYS PERMIT MUST BE ON THE CURRENT LIST WAITING TO PURCHASE. - FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT ALSO FOR AREA'S 1,2,3. AMERICAN LOBSTER, COMMERCIAL CRAB, BLUE FISH PERMITS.

26 FT GLASS AND MAHOGANY MANINO BOAT, NEW REBUILT VOLVO 200 HP DIESEL. TAMD 41A. OVER \$8,000 WORTH OF VOLVO PARTS. NEW SS SHAFT 1 1/4", NEW 73 SERIES GEAR 2:1 RATIO. ALSO, 250 32" WOODEN TRAPS, NOW FISHING. ASKING \$40,000 FOR BUSINESS. CALL BOB AT 508-746-6972

#1898 (9/02)

35' LOBSTER BOAT \$8,500



135 HP FORD NORTHEAST DIESEL, GLASS OVER WOOD, 10' BEAM, 12"HYDRAULIC HAULER, VHF, NORTHSTAR LORAN, WASHDOWN, 300# HOLDING TANK. GOOD CONDITION. CALL (631) 269-4607 OR EMAIL EAG153@HOTMAIL.COM

#1900 (9/02)

41 FT MORGAN 1990 LOBSTER BOAT



8V71 GM REBUILT COMPLETELY WITH NEW 2;1 GEAR, ONLY 200 HRS. FULL ELECTRONICS (COLOR SOUNDER, 2 GPS, LORAN, RADAR, 2 VHF RADIOS) EXCELLENT BOAT FOR INSHORE OFFSHORE FISHING. HIGH BOW CURRENTLY FISHING. WOULD BE GREAT CANYON SPORT BOAT. ONLY \$80,000. ALSO, 500 48x24x13.5 HEAVY DUTY BUILT LOBSTER TRAPS WITH SINKO RUNNERS. FISHED ONLY 6 MOS @\$50. EACH. TEL: 631-754-1067 CELL: 631-680-5937

#1901 (10/02)

18' TRI WERX WOODEN SKIFF WITH C/C 40 HP MARINER ELEC. START LONGSHAFT POWER TRIM TILT, VENTURE TRAILER, ALL NEW DEC 1999. LESS THEN 20 HRS. WILL SEPARATE. \$4,200 OR BEST OFFER OR TRADES. 978-283-2517

#1902 (10/02)

CRYSLER MARINE SLANT 6. COMPLETE, RUNS, HAS BAD VALVE, WITH SPARE PARTS. \$500 OR B/O 978-283-2517

#1903 (10/02)

FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT - AREA 2 - GOOD HISTORY - 400 TRAPS / YOU PICK FROM 800. 20K 401-635-4615

#1904 (10/02)

46' JARVIS NEWMAN, LIKE BRAND NEW, WITH OR WITHOUT PERMITS, TOO MUCH TO LIST. TAKING BEST OFFER 631-757-8264 (NY)

#1905 (10/02)

1998 600HP E7 MACK, 1,350 HOURS. LIKE NEW. ASKING \$19,000. 631-375-4947 (NY)

#1906 (10/02)

TRAC RAC SYSTEM FOR 8' PICK-UP BED. WILL FIT FORD, CHEVY AND DODGE FROM 1972-1993 \$450. 781-254-9153

#1907 (10/02)

1989 PROVINCIAL CONSTRUCTION 42' ALL GLASS, HEAD, TABLE, 2 BUNKS, STAINLESS DAVIT, TINTED GLASS, WELL MAINTAINED, RADAR, GPS, 14" HAULER, GEN PUMP, PITTS CLUTCH, OPEN STERN, NEEDS RE-POWER. BEST REASONABLE OFFER. 781-871-6027



#1908 (10/02)

LOOKING FOR AN
INSHORE LOBSTER LICENSE
WITH GOOD SOLID HISTORY
978-985-9549

#1909 (10/02)

37' FROST BUILT LOBSTER BOAT. ALL WOOD, NICE LINES TO THIS BOAT. NO ENGINE. BOAT IS DOCUMENTED. NEEDS A LITTLE TLC. \$4,000 OR BO 508-432-7930

#1910 (10/02)

21' PRIVATEER - CENTER CONSOLE W/T-TOP, 175 HP EVINRUDE, DUAL AXLE TRAILER, FURUNO GPS AND COLOR SOUNDER, LORAN-C, VHF, DUAL BATTERIES, REMOTE SPOTLIGHT, WASHDOWN HOSE, 9 SWIVEL ROD HOLDERS, 40 GAL. LIVEWELL, LIFE RAFT, CAT. II EPIRB, LIFE RING AND FLARE KIT. GREAT TUNA BOAT! ASKING \$16,900 OR BO CALL BG BROWN @ 978-282-4663

#1911 (10/02)

44' STANLEY / F/V SEAWIFE - CAT 3406-B - 8-KW NORTHERN LIGHTS GEN, FEDERAL PERMITS / COASTAL ACCESS PERMIT, MULTI-SPECIES D.A.S., OFFSHORE LOBSTER, MUCH MORE - BUILT TO LAST 508-888-4216 PLEASE CALL BEFORE 8:00 PM.

#1912 (10/02)

COMPELTE LOBSTER BUSINESS

1998 30' GLASS H&H MARINE, 260 CUMMINS WITH 750 HRS. 2 RADIOS, RADAR, COLOR DEPTHFINDER AND GPS PLOTTER. STATE LOBSTER & GILLNET PERMIT, FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT AND OTHER MISC PERMITS. 600 36" WIRE TRAPS, 12' CAROLINA SKIFF W/15 HP MERCURY. MOORING AVAILABLE. WILL SELL BOAT SEPARATELY, WOULD MAKE EXCELLENT TUNA OR CHARTER BOAT. CRUISES AT 15 KNOTS TOPS AT 20 KNOTS. \$120,000.

781-837-4868 ASK FOR TERRY.

#1913 (10/02)

36' BOB RICH BUILT LOBSTER BOAT 1971 – 471 MARINE DIESEL ENGINE. MA COASTAL LOBSTER LICENSE INCL. \$30,000 ASK FOR DON 978-281-1886

#1914 (10/02)

45' LOBTER BOAT, SPLIT WHEELHOUSE, 871, FULL ELECTRONICS & SAFETY GEAR. 3 BELOW DECK LOBSTER TANKS, 800 TRPS, **FEDERAL LOBSTER LICENSE AREA 2&3, MA STATE LOBSTER LICENSE, SCUP, SEA BASS, SURF CLAM, OCEAN QUAHOG.** \$120,000 508-636-5037

#1915 (10/02)

24' NAUSET FIBERGLASS POT BOAT FULL WINDER BACK, SS. HAULER & DAVIT, COLOR SOUNDER, AUTOPILOT, RADAR, PLOTTER, HAS A NEW WORK DECK, SHAFT, PITTS CLUTCH, FUEL TANKS. BOAT HAS BEEN WELL TAKEN CARE OF. 453 DETROIT DIESEL WITH 502 TWIN DISC GEAR. JUST SANDBLASTED AND REBUILT. \$25,000. 508-758-3863

#1916 (10/02)

35' ATKINSÓN 1989 LOBSTER BOAT – NEW DECKS, TANKS, SHAFTS, PROP. 71B VOLVO 380 HP. CRUISES AT 14 KTS. 2 LORANS, NEW RADAR, VHF, DIRECT DRIVE W/CLUTCH. 1 ½" WASHDOWN W/CLUTCH. SPLIT WHEELHOUSE, FAST & CLEAN. \$50,000 CALL BILL AT 781-639-8301

#1917 (10/02)

FIBERGLASS NOVI LOBSTER BOAT - \$68,000 41"4" X 14'8"



BRUCE ATKINSON HULL, OPEN STERN, 6-71 DETROIT DIESEL 509 TWIN DISC TRANSMISSION, 14" POT HAULER, FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT, FURUNO RADAR, NORTHSTAR GPS & NORTHSTAR LORAN. WELL KEPT. \$68,000 CALL 781-337-7597

#1919 (10/02)

LOBSTER BOAT WANTED

MUST BE: REASONABLY PRICED, 30-40 FT SOLID FIBERGLASS HULL AND MUST BE U.S. BUILT. WILL CONSIDER BOATS NEEDING MECHANICAL AND OR OTHER WORK. BHM, WEBBERS COVE, JC, ETC. 781-799-9849

#1920 (10/02)

30 FOOT YOUNG BROTHERS LOBSTER GILLNETTER, 210 CUMMINS, TWIN DISC, 1300 HOURS, TOP 21 KTS, CRUISE 17 KTS. NEW ELECTRONICS, WASHDOWN AND HYDRAULICS, WITH GILLNET REEL AND PERMITS. GOING BIGGER. \$52,000. WILL SEPARATE GILLNET REEL AND PERMITS. CALL 516-541-6596

#1921 (11/02)

28x28 RECONDITIONED PROP 2" BORE \$500 OR BEST OFFER - 20' CUSTOM BUILT DUAL AXLE TRAILER, WILL HAUL 120 LOBSTER POTS. \$975 OR BEST OFFER. CALL RON AT 508-997-9860 OR CELL 508-509-1243

#1922 (11/02)

45' YOUNG BROS, 1982, 8V92 DETROIT, TWIN DISC 2.5:1 REBUILT 1996, SPLIT WHEELHOUSE, OPEN STERN. 6 BELOW DECK LOBSTER TANKS WITH 3,000 LB. CAPACITY 500 GAL FUEL, 4 V-BERTHS, BUS HEATER, JRC RADAR, NORTHSTAR 951X GPS, NORTHSTAR 800 LORAN, ROBERTSON AUTOPILOT, FURUNO COLOR SOUNDER, 2 VHF'S, CB, NEW PROP 2000, HULL AWLGRIPED IN 2000, TRAP FENCE, THIS BOAT IS IN EXCELLENT SHAPE AND READY TO GO. \$130,000 PERMIT ALSO AVAILABLE. CALL 401-789-0332 LEAVE MESSAGE.

#1923 (12/02)

1 ½" STAINLESS PROPELLER SHAFT 9'-10" LONG - \$125. CALL 401-635-4392 #1924 (11/02)

NETS / TRAPS FOR SALE

\$50. - 280 - 48 x 24 x 13 ½ - FISHED 1 SUMMER \$35. - 240 - 48 x 24 x 13 ½ - FISHED 5 SUMMERS

\$30. - 30 - 12 x 12 x 18 GAUGE MONK NETS

\$25. - 50 - 12 x 12 x 18 GAUGE / 150 FATHOM MONK NETS CALL 401-842-8165

#1925 (11/02)

40' FIBERGLASS GILLNETTER - 6V92 DIESEL, 24" GILLNET LIFTER, FULL ELECTRONICS & SAFETY GEAR. \$25,000 CALL 978-281-2411

#1926 (11/02)

78V BATTERIES - \$50.

- 1 32V LEECE-NEVILLE ALT. (115 AMP) \$350.
- 1 32V DELCO STARTER (12 TEETH) \$150.
- 1 32V WOOD FREEMAN 500B JOG LEVER \$200.
- 1 24V SEA LEVEL BUS HEATER \$50
- 1 32V ALARM BELL FREE
- 1 32V JABSCO 2" PUMP W/ELECTRIC CLUTCH \$100. CALL 401-842-8165

#1927 (11/02)

WANTED - WANTED - WANTED MASS. COASTAL LOBSTER LICENSE CALL 508-636-2144

#1928 (11/02)

50 FRIENDSHIP WIRE TRAP KITS – 36 X 22 ½ X 15 – SHRIMP MESH HEADS, NO BRICKS, NO RUNNERS - \$20 EACH.
50 MISC TRAPS - \$10 EACH. CALL DON 781-834-7079

#1929 (11/02)

34 X 13 FOOT FIBERGLASS LOBSTER BOAT CAT 3116 300 HP

THIS BOAT WAS REBUILT IN 1998

EVERYTHING NEW

SPLIT WHEELHOUSE, ALL FURUNO
ELECTRONICS, PLOTTER, RADAR, SOUNDER
3 RAYTHEON LORANS
STAINLESS HAULER, DAVIT
ELECTRIC CLUTCH ON 2 WASHDOWN
MUST SEE

\$65,000 OR BEST OFFER. CALL JUSTIN AT 781-477-2977 OR 781-789-8301

#1930 (12/02)

COMPLETE BUSINESS FOR SALE

25 FT, 10 FT BEAM, FIBERGLASS BOAT BUILT IN NOVI IN 1989; 1998 135 HP MARINER OPTIMAX, LOW HOURS; 10" ELECTRO-DYNE HAULER, ELECTRONICS, RUNS 6-POT TRAWLS; 225 TRAPS, ROPES, AND BUOYS. FEDERAL LOBSTER OFFSHORE AND MASS. COASTAL LOBSTER PERMITS. SOLD AS PACKAGE ONLY BUT WILL CONSIDER SELLING FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT SEPARATELY. MAKE OFFER CALL BOB AT 781-767-2310 OR ARTHUR AT 508-888-2394

#1931 (11/02)

RUNNING TAKE OUT - 1996 VOLVO 72A 430 HP WITH APPROX. 7,000 HRS ENGINE COMPLETE. WITHOUT GEAR. \$4,000 OR BEST OFFER. CALL PETE AT 508-830-9779

#1932 (11/02)

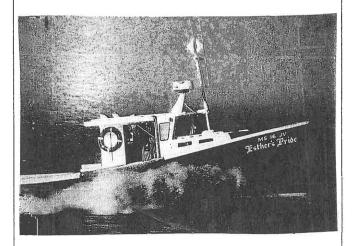
REBUILT CATERPILLARS

3208TA'S, 3116'S, 3126'S, CUMMINS 6B, 6C, TWIN DISC GEARS, PROPS, SHAFTS, U.S. PUMPED AND REFINED OIL, (NONE OF THE PROCEEDS GOES TO THE MIDDLE EAST) CALL 781-837-5424 – WILL DELIVER



#1933 (11/02)

TURN-KEY OPERATION \$95,000 41.5' 1985 BRUCE ATKINS FIBERGLASS AIREX CORE HULL



1998 CUMMINS 400 HP ENGINE,

507 TWIN DISC GEAR (4,000 HR). IN 2002 NEW DECK,
2 FIBERGLASS FUEL TANKS, 380 GAL AND SS. EXHAUST.
SPLIT WHEELHOUSE, 14" HAULER,
2 ROLLS ROYCE BATTERIES
SITEX DEPTH SOUNDER, RADAR AND LORAN
SINK AND STOVE
800 TRAPS WITH ROPE AND BUOYS

MASS &FEDERAL LOBSTER LICENSES AND TUNA PERMIT LOTS OF EXTRAS \$95,000.

CALL JOHN AT 978-646-8801

#1934 (12/02)

WANTED ~ WANTED ~ WANTED 16' FIBERGLASS WORK SKIFF

(JUST A SKIFF, NO OUTBOARD OR TRAILER)
NEW BEDFORD AREA – CALL 508-748-1891

#1935 (12/02)

FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT AREA 1 – GOOD HISTORY \$8,000 CALL 781-447-0750

#1936 (12/02)

6-PERSON LIFERAFT - SWITLIK - LAST INSPECTED 1996, NEVER DEPLOYED IN OCEAN. \$300. CALL JACK AT 508-945-3679

#1937 (12/02)

FISH BOX - INSULATED, F/G 4x3x5 WITH COVERS. \$250 CALL JACK AT 508-945-3679

#1938 (12/02)

BED LÎNERS FOR PICK-UP TRUCKS - 2 FORD OR DODGE \$30 EACH. CALL JACK AT 508-945-3679

#1939 (12/02)

TAILGATE - FORD PICK-UP TRUCK TAILGATE - GOOD & FUNCTIONS. \$50. CALL JACK AT 508-945-3679

#1940 (12/02)

TWO (2) 28x26x2 4-BLADE LEFT-HAND BOTH RECONDITIONED - \$500 EACH 781-447-0750 #1942 (12/02)

5 FT WIRE STRAIGHTENER LIKE NEW - \$400 OR B.O. 978-546-9493

#1943 (12/02)

1985 35' BRUNO LOBSTER BOAT \$49,900



BUILT BY NAUSET, BOAT HAS A 230 MERC CRUISER MOTOR WITH A 100-GAL GAS TANK, 12" HAULER, NEW MOTOR IN 1995 WITH ABOUT 300 HRS ON IT. BOAT IS ALL FIBERGLASS. DOES 23 KTS, HAS WASH DOWN PUMP, OPEN STERN, ETC. CALL FOR DETAILS \$49,900.

THIS IS A STEAL AT THIS PRICE.

CALL TONY AT 978-670-2463 OR 978-670-1845

#1944 (12/02)

22x22 RH MICHIGAN DYNAQUAD - USED 3 MONTHS - MINT CONDITION \$600 CALL 508-224-3418

#1945 (12/02)

FEDERAL LOBSTER LICENSE FOR DETAILS CALL 508-487-9258 OR 508-487-0420

#1946 (12/02)

USED FISH TOTES \$4.00 EACH FIRM (100 AVAILABLE) CALL 978-777-8591

#1947 (12/02)

38' X 16 ATKINSON GLASS OVER WOOD DOUBLE RIBBED, 12" HYDROSLAVE HAULER, GPS, VHF, 454 GAS ENGINE, REBUILT TRANSMISSION, GOOD SEA BOAT WITH FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT & 200 WIRE TRAPS. \$20,000 CALL 781-596-0518 AFTER 5 PM.

#1948 (12/02)

LOBSTER BUSINESS FOR SALE
28' NOVI GLASS OVER WOOD LOBSTER BOAT
292 CHEV GAS ENGINE. BOAT CURRENTLY OVERHAULED,
WIRING, HYDRAULICS, 24 GAL. GRESSEN PUMP, DIRECT
DRIVE WITH ELECTRIC CLUTCH, HEAT EXCHANGER,
BELOW DECK FIBERGLASS FUEL TANK, READY TO FISH
WITH INSHORE LICENSE & 200 WIRE TRAPS

\$20,000 781-596-0518 AFTER 5 PM

#1949 (12/02)

WANTED ~ WANTED ~ WANTED YOUR WOOD TRAPS - ANY SIZE - CASH WAITING CALL BILL FOR MORE INFO AT 413-237-0063 #1950 (12/02)

~ WANTED ~ MASS. COASTAL LOBSTER PERMIT

CALL 781-925-3424

#1951 (12/02)

30' YOUNG BROTHERS

210 ISUZU, FURUNO SOUNDER, LORAN & RADAR RAYMARINE AUTOPILOT

200 POTS & FEDERAL LOBSTER PERMIT \$45,000 CALL BOB @ 508-759-8929

#1952 (12/02)

WIRE TRAPS FOR SALE - 48x28x18 \$10 EACH.
ALSO, WOOD TRAPS, THE BEAR TRAPS ONCE MADE BY
ANDERSON 48x32x18 ALL READY TO FISH. GROUND LINE
INCLUDED \$10 EACH. FOR INFO CALL BILL AT 413-237-0063

#1953 (12/02)

F/V GLUTTON

28' 1984 CAPE DORY TRAWLERS LOBSTER/TUNA

18 CRUISE 21 TOP

CUMMINS 68T 210 HP 1800 HRS NEW DIGITAL TAC (SEPT 2002)

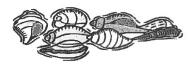
NEW 690A ZF TRANSMISSION 20 HRS (SEPT 2002) NEW 12" HYDROSLAVE HAULER WITH SPARE PUMP

JABSCO / RULE WASHDOWNS

2 BILGE PUMPS – ICOM RADIO – NORTHSTAR 800 RURUNO RADAR – BOMAR HATCHES

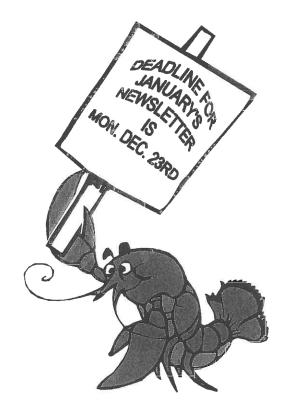
\$45,000.

CALL 508-487-2625



THE MLA NEWSLETTER IS
THE PLACE TO FIND ALL THE
BEST DEALS. GOT SOMETHING
TO SELL? THIS IS THE PLACE
BUT BE SURE YOU SEND
IT IN BEFORE THE DEADLINE.

ALL ADS ARE ALSO PUT ON THE MLA'S WEBSITE FREE OF CHARGE (For our members only, of course).



NOTE: THE NEXT ISSUE (JANUARY'S NEWLETTER) WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE ANNUAL WEEKEND WHERE NON-MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO PICK UP A COPY. IF YOU PLAN TO PUT AN AD IN THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER, PLEASE MAKE SURE WE HAVE YOUR AD BEFORE THE DEADLINE.

BALT

BARRELS, TOTES & FROZEN

Sea Herring
Pogies
Mackerel
Flats
Redfish

508-888-0096

THE BAIT LADY

Sandwich MA Division

20 Freezer Road

Sandwich, MA 02563

MASSACHUSETTS LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. DECEMBER 2002 NEWSLETTER

<u>DELEGATES PLEASE NOTE</u>: The next Delegates meeting will be held on <u>Wednesday, December</u> <u>18, 2002</u> at the Son's of Italy Hall, Quincy, MA at 7:30 PM.

ASMFC LOBSTER BOARD DISCUSSES V-NOTCH EVALUATION METHODS AND AREA 2 LOBSTER CRISIS

There were no compliance votes taken by the ASMFC's Lobster Board against any state including Massachusetts during the November 20th meeting of the Board. During the plan review teams report, however, there was a lengthy discussion on the issue that most states had not implemented the regulations set forth for Areas outside their jurisdictions. This involved, for example, that Massachusetts and other states as well, had not put into their regulations the rules for Areas 4, 5, 6 and had only set up regs for, in Massachusetts' case, Areas 1, 2, 3 and the Outer Cape. It was noted that the states had until June 2003 to take care of this.

There also was a lengthy discussion on the most restrictive rule requirement. The basic plan, Amendment 3, implemented in 1997 states that in dealing with fishermen who may designate more then one Area on their permit, the most restrictive rule applies to that fishermen no matter where he fishes. This was always accepted for most provisions. As an example, if one designates Area 1 and Area 2 or the Outer Cape, that fisherman would be bound by the higher minimum size (Area 2 and O.C. rule) and he would also be bound by the 5" maximum size and the v-notching program (Area 1 rules). He would be bound by those rules no matter where he fishes. While this has been understood, it was noted that this was not intended to be the case if one area had a flat trap limit (800) as some areas have, and another area had an historical participation transferable trap program. In this case the idea had always been that if one qualifies to fish in the historical participation area that the fishermen would be bound to fish the qualifying number in that area or the 800 in the area with the flat trap limit. As an example here, if one qualifies for 200 traps in Area 3 but also fishes in Area 1, he could fish 200 in Area 3 and 600 in Area 1 or all 800 in Area 1 and none in Area 3. Under the current wording, he would be bound to the most restrictive rule, which would mean he could only fish 200 traps total anywhere. The Board will be considering how to fix this wording.

The Technical Committee indicated that they are prepared to use a model that will determine the rate of v-notching being done in Area 1. The Board voted to have the Technical Committee provide the first read-out, based solely on the fall trawl survey, when the Board meets again in February. The Board also indicated that other methods of evaluating the performance of the v-notch program besides this one computer model would also be acceptable. It was noted that it would be unacceptable to the Massachusetts lobster industry to base any decision on whether the program is working on one set of surveys done in early fall of 2002. The reasons noted here was that (1) the program only started in July 2002, (2) the fishermen must first catch an egger in order to v-notch it, (3) the biggest portion of vnotching by the fishermen is occurring between September and November so the survey wouldn't show the extent of notching being done yet, (4) the biologists need to use data from trap sampling and not just a trawl survey in order to get enough information to get an acceptable amount of samples to plug into any computer model. The issue here revolves around the Massachusetts provision in the Addendum III that states that if the "observed" rate of v-notches is not at 50% by the end of 2002, the Commonwealth may take further steps to ensure that the Area 1 plan meets its goal. Director Diodati indicated that he wants this report by February to use as a starting point and not necessarily as a determining factor as to whether to take any further action. The Technical Committee Chair, DMF's Bob Glenn, was asked whether the Technical Committee believes these plans will meet the goals and it was indicated that the Technical Committee does not think the Area plans will do the job needed because while they potentially raise egg production, the don't lower the removal rate (?!?!)

DMF Director Diodati also submitted a letter to the Board updating them on what Massachusetts is doing to meet its obligations under Addendum III. (See Notice Section for copy of the letter). The letter included a copy of the *Commercial Fisheries News* article on his Trap Cap Plan (Nov.2002 edition).

There was also a lengthy review of the lobster stock crisis in the Southern Inshore Stock Area (Areas 2 and 6). The focus here was primarily on Area 2. The Technical Committee indicated that stock declines and severe landing declines are cause for alarm. It was noted that factors other than fishing may be a large part of the problem. Shell disease, high water temperature and other environmental or natural factors may well be the culprits in the area but something still needs to be done to keep the fishery from a complete collapse in that area. The Board decided to form a sub-committee of Board members from Area 2 (MA, RI, CT) as quickly as possible to determine objectives for the Area 2 LCMTs in order for them to address these problems. This will mean that the Area 2 LCMTs will be called into session to work on some actions the ASMFC could take. There was no discussion on the "tabled" Addendum IV proposal for an historical participation transferable trap reduction program for Area 2.

The Board did decide to hold a working group of Board members early in 2003 to continue their discussions on the transferable trap concept. Among other agenda items, the Law Enforcement Committee stuck to its recommendation that recreational traps should all be tagged. This was in response to Massachusetts request to allow an alternate method of marking recreational buoys instead of having to issue, somehow, trap tags for every recreational lobster fisherman. The Board took no action on the issue. The Board turned down a request by Massachusetts to allow a second lobster biologist from the Commonwealth to sit as a member of the Lobster Technical Committee. Currently each state and NMFS has one lobster biologist on the Committee and each state has one vote. DMF's Bob Glenn is the Massachusetts member and is now the Chair of that Committee.

THE MLA 2003 ANNUAL WEEKEND IS COMING

Make sure you mark your calendar now and clear your schedule for January 23rd thru January 26th (Thursday – Sunday) so you won't miss the MLA 2003 edition of its Annual Weekend and Lobster Trade Show event at the Sea Crest Oceanfront Resort and Conference Center in No. Falmouth, MA. We will be celebrating 40 years as an Association. This is still the least expensive way to have a little vacation and a lot of fun. Let's face it, you've worked hard and you need a break.

Although you should have already received your reservation packet in the mail, we've included some of the basic parts in this newsletter just so you can't use the "lost form" excuse.

This years fun time will include the seminars, prizes, more prizes, casino night, bingo, Nancy and Gayle's craft class, the trade show with, this year, 6 Canadian boat builders present along with trap, engine, fishing supplies and other great dealers. We will have all of this plus the *infamous* hospitality suite, the good food and of course the assorted cast of characters, including yourself that makes this event one you shouldn't miss.

Although all the details and times of the seminars are still being finalized, here are some of the topics. Friday afternoon, as well as Saturday, will be needed to fit them all in.

- <u>Dr. Bob Stenech</u> and possibly <u>Susan Waddy</u> will be returning this year by popular demand to discuss aspects in lobster research. The Lobster Institute will be sponsoring this part of the program.
- There will be a seminar on the **MWRA Outfall Pipe Monitoring** with Battelle Lab & MWRA Representatives along with the Center for Coastal Studies personnel who are conducting independent monitoring of the affects of the outfall pipe on Cape Cod Bay and Massachusetts Bay.

- A <u>Lobster Technical Seminar</u> on stock assessment and egg production for all lobster Areas. This will include Lobster Technical Committee biologists and chaired by DMF's <u>Bob Glenn</u>.
- A round table discussion on <u>what research and statistical studies fishermen feel need to be done</u> that are not currently being done. This seminar will be conducted by Lobster Institute's Director <u>Dr. Bob Bayer</u> and <u>Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation representatives Patrice Farrey</u> and <u>Pat White.</u> These two industry sponsored entities are capable of getting needed projects funded and operational.
- Lobster Bait A discussion of the herring bait industry with Dave Ellington from Cape Seafoods in Gloucester plus a herring boat Captain.
- An <u>E-Molt</u> project update on water temperature and salinity with <u>Jim Manning</u>, <u>MLA's Dave</u> <u>Casoni</u> and Gulf of Maine Foundation Director <u>Patrice Farrey</u>.
- The Tax Seminar on how to legally keep more of what you earn.

It will also be important that you bring your current MLA membership card with you whether you come for the whole weekend or just for the day. (Remember, the current card is laminated and is a very light gray – it may look white to some).

There will be a \$5.00 entrance fee to the event for the day <u>except</u> for MLA members (and their wives or girlfriends) who get in for <u>free</u> – bring your card – There's also the MLA members raffle available only to MLA members and the ticket is **free** – bring your card!

Make your reservations as soon as you can because when the rooms are gone – they're gone. We have already received more reservations than this time last year and it is still only November. Remember, we accept MasterCard and Visa. You can also register online at www.lobstermen.com.

DOGFISH PLAN APPROVED BY THE ASMFC

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission approved the interstate Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) for Spiny Dogfish during its meeting week held in Virginia from November 17 - 21. The FMP compliments the existing federal regulations for dogfish, which employs a constant fishing mortality strategy.

The Plan also directs the Management Board to establish an annual commercial quota based on the status of the stock and is allocated between the same two periods in the federal fishery (May 1 - Oct 31 and November 1 - April 30). Currently the coast wide quota is 4 million pounds. To control the rate of harvest, state trip limits are also to be set annually by the Management Board.

Massachusetts voted against the Plan both at the Management Board level and again during the final vote taken by the full Commission. During the full Commission vote, the Commonwealth was the only state to oppose the passage of the Plan. Massachusetts' was very much against the Plan because it potentially destroys the ability for Massachusetts's fishermen to have any substantive commercial fishery in state waters.



DELEGATES VOTE TO OPPOSE STATE TRAP CAP PROPOSAL

The MLA Delegates approved a motion to have the Association oppose any trap tier system proposed by the State. The vote came during the November 13th Delegates meeting following a lengthy discussion on the Division's proposal to establish a statewide Transferable Trap Limit Cap Program based on the average poundage landed by a license holder between 1996 – 2000 (See last month's newsletter).

ELECTION NOTES

The ballot for this year's election of Delegates has been mailed to all <u>paid up</u> voting members and you should be receiving yours right about now. If not, call the office. Please remember to read the instructions carefully and don't forget to return the ballot by December 31st.

You will be selecting those who will guide the policy of the Association for the next two years (2003-2004) – it's your call!!

Nominations for Officers will take place at the first meeting of the new and re-elected Delegates in January 2003 with the actual election of officers taking place in March in accordance with the By-Laws of the Association.

LOBSTER LICENSE RENEWALS & TRAP TAG FORMS

The Division of Marine Fisheries has announced that the 2003 lobster license renewals will be sent out around the first week of December. The 2003 trap tag order forms, however, won't be sent out until at least March. The DMF is waiting to see the catch reports and who doesn't renew before sending out the tag forms. The 2002 tags are valid through May 2003 and the DMF may extend the date through June.

THE MLA "RULER" AS A RENEWAL THANK YOU GIFT

We wanted to send all those who renewed their membership some little thank you gift. Our idea was okay but we couldn't get it successfully through the mail with your new membership card. The envelopes were being destroyed in the postal machines and both the card and ruler were lost. We are trying to get it to you by sneaking it into this newsletter ~ thank you for renewing ~ Hey, we try!!

MLA PROMOTIONAL MATERIAL GOES TO ST. LOUIS

MLA lobster promotional material was sent upon request to Midwest Seafood, who is the largest seafood supplier in the St. Louis area. The MLA sent the lobster posters, red and green lobster cut-out cards, bumper stickers and menu insert cards.

CAN YOU DONATE SOMETHING TO OUR AUCTION?

The MLA 2003 Annual Weekend Grand Auction will once again be taking place on Sunday morning, Jan. 26, 2003. As has been the case during the past few years, the auction items are not just fishing-type articles that are always graciously donated by our great exhibitors. Other non-fishing items will be auctioned off as well. We are looking for all types of articles – well, maybe not your old kitchen sink - but something you might be willing to donate to the auction. If so, please give Nancy Reid or Gayle Beaudoin a call at (781) 545-6984 and they will fill you in on the details. We would like to know by the end of December if possible so that we can properly publicize and display the items prior to the auction. Thank you all very much for your participation.

CASINO NIGHT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - FOR THE HOUSE

Dave Casoni, who is the coordinator of the Annual Weekend Casino Night, is looking for a few volunteers to help run some of the games, blackjack, wheels, etc. Didn't you always want to be on the "other" side at least just once? Help a good cause and volunteer for a few hours on Friday night, January 24,2003. Call the MLA office at (781) 545-6984. Thank you very much.

HERRING QUOTA UPDATE

As of November 17th the Sea Herring landings were:

	Total Quota	Taken as of 11/17/02
Area 1A	60.000 mt.	54,620 mt.
Area 1B	10,000 mt.	5,284 mt.
Area 2	50,000 mt.(+70,000 reserve)	10,635 mt.
Area 3	60,000 mt.	14,184 mt.

The regional admnistrator's office has determined that Area 1A will be closed to all directed herring fishing as of 12:01 AM Sunday, December 1st.

MFC MEETING AND HEARINGS CANCELLED

The November Mass. Marine Fisheries Commission meeting as well as the Public Hearings slated for December were cancelled. The MFC will meet in December and will be discussing what issues may need to go to public hearings probably in January.

PLEASE NOTE: Included in the Notice Section you will find....

- Division of Marine Fisheries Update to ASMFC on Mass. Lobster "Plan".
- NMFS "Whale" Gear Option List Change
- Gas Pipeline (Beverly Weymouth) Update
- Lobster Institute Bulletin
- Press Release for Robert Delano Martin's Book "The Tale of the Lobster"
- Annual Weekend Registration Forms
- Whale Habitat May Get Bigger News Article
- MLA Clothing Order Form Last minute Christmas Ideas !!



THE MLA LEGAL DEFENSE FUND



The Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association continues to need support for its Legal Defense Fund. This dedicated fund has been and will be used for the purpose of defending the Massachusetts lobster fishermen from legal and fisheries management action that could seriously impact our fishermen's ability to conduct their businesses and earn a living.

The Massachusetts lobster industry is facing the possible need for legal action on Lobster Management as well as Federal Right Whale issues. Further down the road there could be Marine Protected Area actions that also may require this Association to respond in a legal format. As we all know, any legal action costs money and this Association needs to be prepared. We certainly would prefer and will continue to try and resolve issues on our fishery without going into court but we must be ready to do so in order to protect our industry and our individual fishermen's livelihoods.

Any contribution you can afford to make to this fund will be held in our legal defense fund and used only for defraying legal expenses if and when they are needed.

Help us, if you can.

A Different Generation

Looking back, it's hard to believe that we have lived as long as we have.

As children we would ride in cars with no seat belts or air bags. Riding in the back of a pickup truck on a warm day was always a special treat.

Our baby cribs were painted with bright colored lead based paint. We often chewed on the crib, ingesting the paint. We had no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors, or cabinets, and when we rode our bikes we had no helmets. We drank water from the garden hose and not from a bottle.

We would spend hours building our go-carts out of scraps and then rode down the hill, only to find out we forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times we learned to solve the problem.

We would leave home in the morning and play all day, as long as we were back when the streetlights came on. No one was able to reach us all day.

We played dodge ball and sometimes the ball would really hurt.

We ate cupcakes, bread and butter, and drank sugar soda, but we were never overweight. We were always outside playing.

Little League had tryouts, and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't had to learn to deal with disappointment. Some students weren't as smart as others or didn't work hard so they failed a grade and were held back to repeat the same grade.

That generation produced some of the greatest risk-takers and problem solvers. We had the freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and we learned how to deal with it all.

~Author unknown~

DECEMBER 2002 & JANUARY 2003 CALENDAR

12/5	MFC MONTHLY MEETING, DMF ANNISQUAM MARINE LAB, GLOUCESTER	11:00 AM
12/9 (Mon)	BOSTON HARBOR LOBSTERMEN'S ASSN. CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY RAFFAELLS, NO. QUINCY	7:00 PM
12/12	NORTHWEST ATLANTIC MARINE ALLIANCE (NAMA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES NAMA OFFICE, SACO, MAINE	9:00 AM
12/12	MLA FISHERMEN SERVICES CORP. MTG., MLA BLDG., SCITUATE	8:00 PM
12/16	STELLWAGEN BANK SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING GLOUCESTER CITY HALL AUDITORIUM	10:00 – 4:00
12/18	MLA DELEGATES MEETING, SON'S OF ITALY HALL, QUINCY, MA	7:30 PM
12/25	SANTA CLAUS LEAVES TOWN ~ MERRY CHRISTMAS ~	
12/31	MLA ELECTION BALLOTS DUE BACK AT MLA OFFICE	
1/1/2003	HAPPY NEW YEAR!!	
1/6	SO. SHORE LOBSTER FISHERMEN'S ASSN. MTG., OCEAN CAFÉ, BRANT ROCK	6:30 PM
1/8	BOSTON HARBOR LOBSTERMEN'S ASSN., RAFFAELLS, NO. QUINCY	8:00 PM
1/9	MFC MONTHLY MEETING - (LOCATION TBA - CALL DMF 617-626-1528)	
1/9	MLA FISHERMEN SERVICES CORP. MTG., MLA BLDG., SCITUATE	8:00 PM
1/TBA	ASMFC LOBSTER ADVISORY PANEL MTG., WARWICK, RI	
1/15	MLA DELEGATES MEETING (OFFICIAL ANNUAL MEETING) SON'S OF ITALY HALL, QUINCY	7:30 PM
1/16-17	NORTHWEST ATLANTIC MARINE ALLIANCE (NAMA) (TENTATIVE)	
1/21	STELLWAGEN BANK SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING - LOCATION	ТВА
1/23-26	SEA CREST OCEANFRONT RESORT NO. FAMOUTH, MA SI	BIT HALL HOURS RI. 9:00 – 6:00 AT 9:00 – 5:00 UN 9:00-12:00

ONE CULL OF AN IDEA



Over the past decade lobster fishermen have spent many hours and perhaps days, weeks and months debating what management measures could be used to avoid any serious downslide in the lobster fishery. Placing aside for a minute the argument as to whether anything is needed at all, fishermen working with biologists and managers have discussed all types of ideas and as we now know, we have maximum sizes, minimum size increases, v-notch programs, trap limits, trap reduction programs as well as all types of license limitations. All of these ideas have been explained, studied, debated, assessed, run up and down the hearing flagpole and then fed to the management rulemaking machine.

As one looks back over all the ideas that hit the table, we can recall that some of them were mild and some of them were wild. There was, however, one idea that just never seemed to make it and one might wonder if maybe, just maybe, it deserves another shot.

This idea is the one to conserve and improve the lobster stocks by returning female culls caught while fishing. Now before you brush this one off the table again, think about it. Look at the size rules, the various schemes to cap and cut traps, the tags, the v-notching, the vent increases and the other ideas, which are not all bad but they also all have their own downsides.

As a possible replacement for going with one of the above or as an additional measure if or when one is needed, what about this cull lobster idea? Some of the positive sides to this, it could be argued, could include:

- Culls are generally considered to be a drag on the market and the lobster boat price
- Instead of further reducing the catch of two clawed higher priced, more marketable lobsters, reduce the catch of the less valuable less marketable female culls.
- In this case a cull would be defined as a one-claw or no-claw female lobster. There would, therefore, still be "culls" entering the market for processors or for the meat market but there would be less of them.
- The contribution to the stock, biologically, is quantifiable since there are cull rates in the statistics and the biologists doing their mathematical calculations and extrapolations could assign some level of credit to the management program. It might, in fact, be easier to calculate then some other measures currently in use.

- Fishermen and their sternmen would tend to be more careful when removing lobsters from the traps because a two-clawed female "keeper" could become a throwback if the fisherman wins the tug of war with an obstinate trap-gripping female crustacean.
- Although some biologists have argued that female culls don't produce eggs all that well, other biologists refute that argument. Based on this division, therefore, there is a very good chance that these lobsters, if returned to the sea, will produce eggs, grow larger, regenerate their appendages, and either enter the egger pool or eventually become a valuable keeper lobster. The idea does mean the "removal rate" from the ocean will decrease and that has been what the biologists have said needs to happen. This is also what they complain isn't happening now.
- This measure, like some other ones, would cut across the entire range of fishermen in the area. The big, the small, commercial and recreational, would all be equal in this regard.
- Enforcement would be at the dock or aboard the boat and it would be pretty easy to see. There could be some type of procedure developed to address the measure at the dealer level. It wouldn't be any more complicated to enforce then many of the rules employed in the lobster management program now.

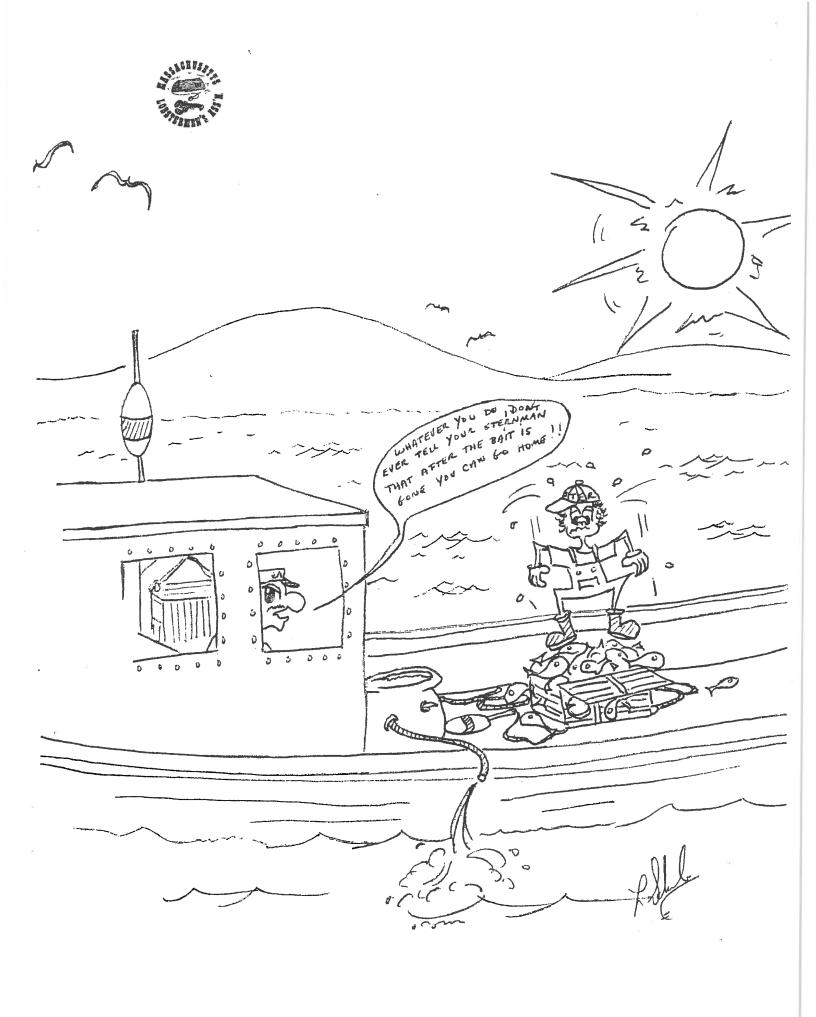
This idea must have had some merit, otherwise the biggest lobster producing country, Canada, would not have entertained this approach for its lobster fishery. Recently, in some Canadian areas, this measure has been selected and approved by the managers. It beat out some other more popular selections such as maximum sizes, minimum size increases, and further trap reductions. Could this idea perhaps be worth further discussion here in our own lobster management areas? Might this be something an Area could consider as a back-up provision or where needed now, an additional measure instead of going back for more of the same old standards?

We are not advocating that this offering necessarily be embraced. We are only saying that it might be worth serious consideration by the Lobster Conservation Management Teams and the management and science communities.

Cull this one out from the pack for another measure.



Bill Adler, Executive Director



MASS LOBSTERMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC. 8 OTIS PLACE SCITUATE, MA 02066-1323



BUS. 781-545-6984 FAX 781-545-7837 E-MAIL mla@lobstermen.com WEB Site www.lobstermen.com

	MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION			
Section I	TYPE of MEMBERSHIP (check one) Regular* (Voting) Associate (Non-Voting) \$100 Annual Dues \$100 Annual Dues			
* To qualify fo	or a Regular Voting Membership, you SPONSORS			
Lobster Licer	rse; (2) reside in Massachusetts; (3) be: Delegate Regular Member reither two Regular Members or one			
<u>Delegate</u> , an with this appl	d (4) send in a copy of your lobster license #2 Name Regular Member			
Section II	MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION Previous MLA Member? Yes when No			
FULL NAME:	NICKNAME:			
ADDRESS:	(Street) (PO Box) (City/Town-State) (Zip)			
	()CELLULAR: ()			
COMPANY	NAME:BUS TEL #: ()			
SPOUSE NA	ME: E-MAIL:			
MLA DEATH	BENEFICIARY:			
BENEFICIAF	RY ADDRESS (if different from above):			
Section III	LICENSE INFORMATION Lobster Permit # State Inshore Inshore Offshore No of Traps Buoy Colors			
□Finfish	□Shellfish □Seasonal □Retired □Lobster Dealer □Equip. Dealer □Other			
Section IV	BOAT INFORMATION BOAT NAME: F/V			
☐ Check h	ere if you would like Hull and/or			
P & I Insuran	ce Information sent to you. HOME PORT:			
Section V	LOBSTER PRICE/CATCH/MARKET REPORT distributed weekly, available to MLA Members Only			
mail or fax: \$\Pi 26 Weeks (\$15) \$\Pi 52 Weeks (\$30) \text{ special offer for email: } \Pi 28 Weeks (\$15) \$\Pi 56 Weeks (\$30) \$\text{ special offer for email: } \Pi 28 Weeks (\$15) \$\Pi 56 Weeks (\$30) \$\text{ special offer for email: } \Pi 28 Weeks (\$15) \$\Pi 56 Weeks (\$30) \$\text{ special offer for email: } \Pi 28 Weeks (\$15) \$\Pi 56 Weeks (\$30) \$\text{ special offer for email: } \Pi 28 Weeks (\$15) \$\Pi 56 Weeks (\$30) \$\text{ special offer for email: } \Pi 28 Weeks (\$30) \$\Pi 56 Weeks (\$30) \$\text{ special offer for email: } \Pi 56 Weeks (\$30) \$\Pi 56 Weeks (\$				
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Account #:	Exp Date:			
Signature:	Date:			



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617) 626-1520 Fax (617) 626-1509



TO: ASMFC Lobster Board

FROM: Paul Diodati, Director

SUBJECT: Massachusetts Lobster Management

DATE: November 15, 2002

Consistent with actions taken at the last meeting of the ASMFC Lobster Board and the subsequent actions taken at the Policy Board, I'm offering an update about the Commonwealth's plans to improve management of American lobster in its waters.

The Policy Board approved the following action, "Immediately undertake a process to formulate and prioritize alternative management measures to achieve the egg production targets (equivalent to 100% V-notch compliance at zero tolerance by Massachusetts fishermen in area 1), and submit the alternatives to the Management Board at the ASMFC Annual Meeting in November 2002."

Since sampling information collected during the 2002 fishing season is not completely processed, the Commonwealth is not able to determine at this time whether or not 100% V-notching took place in Massachusetts' waters. However, we have taken proactive steps to complete evaluation of this information within the next few weeks.

The Commonwealth has begun to formulate and prioritize an alternative management measure to achieve the FMP's Area 1 egg production targets designed to be met under a scenario that requires 100% V-notching at zero tolerance. The alternative measure is embodied in a "Trap Control Plan." The plan has been aired to small focus groups of Massachusetts fishermen, most of whom have served as representatives on the LCMTs; the plan has been described in a recent issue of the popular trade journal, "Commercial Fisheries News," (attached).

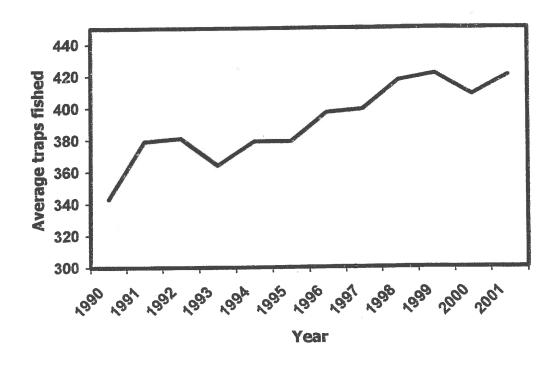
Preliminary estimates made by Massachusetts lobster biologists indicate that of the approximate 23,000,000 female lobsters harvested in the Gulf of Maine annually, only about a maximum of 18,000 would be protected through an additional molt if Massachusetts applies the zero tolerance definition in Area 1. Since this is a paper exercise and actual determination of V-notching in the field is very subjective, I believe the numbers of lobsters protected would be substantially lower than 18,000. This is an extremely small amount of added protection. Since there is only very limited conservation value,

I still feel it's wise not to compromise our state's ability to enforce V-notching rules by adding this second definition to our waters.

Notwithstanding, our Trap Control Plan will cap the number of lobster traps fished in waters of the Commonwealth to current levels, about 465,000 traps; within the timelines of the FMP, I anticipate that the plan will cause a reduction of traps of up to 25% statewide. Merely capping the current trap level without reducing it would be a significant measure in itself given the propensity for traps to increase in the fishery as witnessed over the past decade (Figure 1).

We will provide a complete description of our plan to the Lobster Technical Committee to determine its conservation value following completed rounds of public hearings in our state. Given the time needed to complete our public hearing process, to complete our rule-making, and to develop and have available the proper permit materials at the start of the fishing year, we will not be able to launch a new trap control plan prior to the 2004 fishing year.

Figure 1. Annual average traps fished by Massachusetts coastal permits: 1990-2001.



The following article first appeared in Commercial Fisheries News, November 2002 and is reprinted with permission.

MA lobstermen react to draft trap limit plan

by Lorelei Stevens

SANDWICH, MA - Wary Massachusetts lobstermen got their first good look at what the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has in mind for a statewide effort control program during public meetings in Gloucester and Sandwich in mid-October.

DMF is developing a tier system plan to tie the number of traps a lobsterman can fish to the number of pounds he reported landing within a certain time frame and to restrict the number of traps transferred with each permit.

The plan is far from finalized, but the idea, according to DMF Director Paul Diodati, is to cap the number of traps in state waters at a little under 500,000 and to reduce that number over time to protect the lobster resource and the future economic value of the industry to the state.

While agreeing that there might be some merit to a trap cap plan, many of those who attended the meetings had serious

trouble with parts of DMF's draft proposal.

Some also questioned why the state thought it could do a better job at solving complex problems that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Lobster Conservation Management Teams (LCMTs) have wrestled with for years.

"I don't understand going with a plan developed over a few weeks or months that took the LCMTs six years," said Boston Harbor lobsterman Bill Doherty, who attended the Oct. 10 meeting in Sandwich. "Fall River isn't Boston Harbor."

One trap plan

Under the ASMFC interstate lobster plan, lobstermen from four different areas -- Area 1, Area 2, Outer Cape Cod, and Area 3 -- land in Massachusetts.

Diodati announced earlier this year that DMF would not simply adopt the vastly different area management plans. He argued that administration of the plans would be too complicated and expressed serious doubts that the plans, particularly the one in Area 1, would adequately protect the lobster resource from eventual overharvest.

Instead, while DMF has implemented or is about to implement most of the components of the area management plans

already approved by ASMFC, it has held off on some, including the Outer Cape trap reduction plan.

"My feeling is that you need to have uniform effort control with one entity (DMF) controlling effort," Diodati said. "My job is to look at the situation and give the best recommendation for the commonwealth of Massachusetts, not for Maine."

What about ASMFC?

How the DMF plan will mesh with the LCMT plans governing state waters fishing activities of lobstermen who land in Massachusetts was one of the big questions on everyone's mind.

Frustrated Outer Cape lobstermen predicted that their carefully crafted LCMT plan will fall apart unless the area's trap reduction program goes into effect soon since new effort is already flooding into the area.

"You're trying to do one-size-fits-all. We have a problem with that," said one. "If we get any more than 30,000 traps in the Outer Cape area, we'll need to come up with something else" to meet ASMFC egg production goals.

Do limits count?

And, according to a number of LCMT members, ASMFC biologists have made it clear that trap numbers in some areas, particularly Area 1, would have to be reduced dramatically to contribute anything to egg production goals.

"The scientists have already told us that in Area 1, the numbers would have to be so low that no one would be in business. We've beaten that to death," said Gary Ostrom, an Area 1 LCMT member who fishes out of Sandwich.

In other words, a Massachusetts trap cap plan might require many lobstermen to give up traps, yet might not gain them anything in terms of conservation credit under the interstate lobster management program.

But Diodati, who is no stranger to stirring up controversy at ASMFC, stressed that he would do everything possible to convince the interstate commission that the Massachusetts plan provides important and effective conservation support.

"As far as I can see, this is the most responsible lobster management plan in the country," he said of the DMF draft. "I would argue that we should get egg production credit."

Four tiers

The draft plan Diodati described would establish four "tiers" based on the average of a permit holder's landings over a five-year period.

In his example, Diodati explained that the lowest tier would apply to someone whose average landings over that five-year

period were, say, from 1 pound to 2,999 pounds. People in this category would get 150 traps.

The highest tier would be for those whose average was, say, 300,000 pounds. People in this category would get 650 traps in state waters - 150 less than the current state maximum and a figure that many lobstermen in Sandwich said would not sustain their businesses.

"If we were to cut back to 650 traps, it would disadvantage us. We would have problems getting help," said Henry

Cebula of Fairhaven.

"When the lobsters are here, we need three sets of gear," he said, explaining that the lobsters hauled on days one and two cover expenses. "It's the third day that makes the business profitable."

Added Boston Harbor lobsterman Bernie Feeney, "And those lobsters are in that bin because of 800 traps."

Finding a way

But Diodati tried to explain that he believed those lobstermen who are truly dependent on 800 traps could be accommodated through an appeals process that would allow allocation of additional traps.

The extra traps would likely come from the lowest tier because people in that category whose average landings were

1,000 pounds or less -- about half of that tier's 780 permit holders -- would not be allowed to transfer their traps.

"I suspect that once you create a program like this, it won't make sense for those people to hold onto their permits," he said because of the \$260 annual license fee.

But the idea was still far too uncertain to reassure the lobstermen.

Alternatives

Those who attended the Sandwich meeting offered numerous alternative ideas, including the following.

> Allow consolidation - "Consider putting two permits on a boat. The only way you'll be able to survive is with father/son operations or two partners on a boat," said Ostrom. Others suggested giving consolidated operations 1,200 traps rather than the 1,600 that would be derived from twice the 800 maximum.

> Impose a uniform reduction -- "Take 10% away from everyone," said Feeney. "I'll fish 720 traps if the guy next to

me (with 400) will take 360."

> Cap transfers -- Several lobstermen pointed out that limited entry in the fishery has resulted in a huge bubble of older men who will be retiring from the business over the next five to 10 years. This alone could lead to a significant trap reduction over the long term. Or

> Set up a lottery system -- Feeney suggested that traps from retired licenses be split up with half being retired and half going into a lottery to allow those still in the fishery to grow their businesses. "If you win the lottery one year, you wouldn't

be allowed to participate in the lottery for a few years," he proposed.

The lobstermen also voiced serious concern about the ability of the state to effectively enforce any trap limit and about the tremendous proliferation of traps under the 10-pot recreational permit.

One way or another

In summing up the Sandwich meeting, Diodati made it clear that the draft plan was not set in stone and that he had every intention of taking lobstermen's ideas into account.

"What I'm hearing is 800 rather than 650 and consolidating permits. We'll look at it," he said, adding that he wanted to

meet with industry people again in a few weeks.

At the same time, he also said that he intends to go forward with some kind of statewide effort control plan one way or another.

"Keep in mind that by next season -- by July -- there will be changes for somebody," Diodati said. "Ten years down the road, I think we'll all be more profitable." n



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE NORTHEAST REGION

One Blackburn Drive Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

OCT 17 2002

Dear Commercial Lobster Trap/Pot Fisherman:

This letter is to remind commercial lobster trap fishermen in Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters that one of the options on the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan's (ALWTRP) Lobster Take Reduction Technology List expires December 31, 2002. Earlier this year, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) sent a permit holder letter to commercial lobster trap fishermen on the recent amendments to the regulations implementing the ALWTRP. One of these amendments included a change to the Lobster Take Reduction Technology List which affects lobster trap fishermen in Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters. A detailed summary of the requirements for these waters is provided below.

Does this amendment to the Lobster Take Reduction Technology List apply to me?

This amendment applies to fishermen who use lobster trap/pot gear in the state waters of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine but does not include waters landward of the first bridge over any embayment, harbor, or inlet and waters landward of the following areas in Rhode Island: Sakonnet River, Narragansett Bay, Pt. Judith Pond Inlet, Ninigret Pond Inlet, Quonochontaug Pond Inlet, and Weekapaug Pond Inlet (see Figure 1 for Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters Area depiction).

What do I have to do to comply with this amendment?

Between now and December 31, 2002, fishermen with lobster trap gear in the Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters Area must be in compliance with one option out of Options 1-4 from the Lobster Take Reduction Technology List (see below). Starting January 1, 2003, fishermen must be in compliance with one option out of Options 1-3.

Lobster Take Reduction Technology List:

- Option 1. All buoy lines must be composed entirely of sinking and/or neutrally buoyant line.
- Option 2. All ground lines must be composed entirely of sinking and/or neutrally buoyant line.
- Option 3. All buoys must be attached to the buoy line with a weak link having a breaking strength no greater than 600 lbs (272.4 kg). Weak links may include swivels, plastic weak links, rope of the appropriate breaking strength, hog rings, rope stapled to a buoy stick, or devices approved in writing by the NOAA Fisheries Assistant Administrator. In addition, the bitter end of the buoy line must be clean and free of knots when the weak link breaks.
- Option 4. All buoy lines must be 7/16 in (1.11 cm) or less in diameter. (Effective January 1, 2003, the Lobster Take Reduction Technology List will be amended to remove this option. Removing this option from the Lobster Take Reduction Technology List does not prevent a fisherman from continuing to use buoy line with a diameter of 7/16 in (1.11 cm) or less. However, it can not be counted as an option from this list.)



Please note that lobster trap fishermen must also comply with the universal gear requirements, which include: 1) no wet storage of gear, 2) no floating line at the surface, and 3) fishermen are encouraged, but not required, to maintain knot-free buoy lines.

This letter only summarizes some of the requirements for Northern Inshore State Lobster Waters. To obtain the regulations in their entirety, please call 978-281-9328. In addition, these regulations are available by accessing the ALWTRP web page (www.nero.nmfs.gov/whaletrp/). If you have any questions regarding these regulations, please call 978-281-9328.

Sincerely,

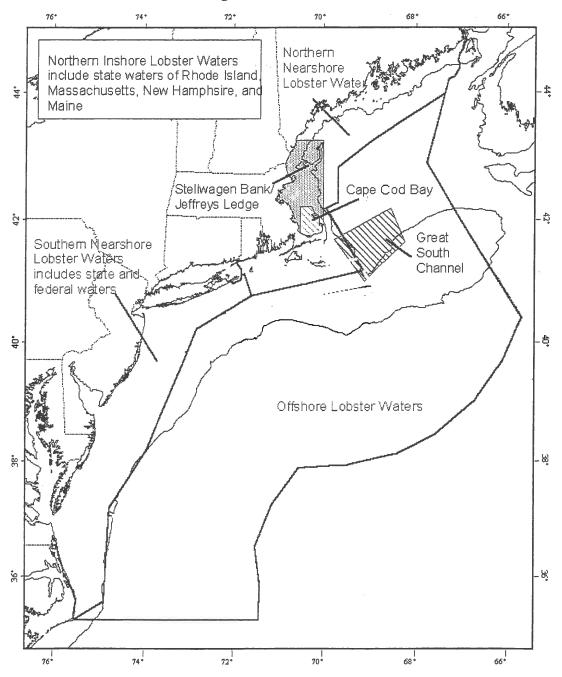
Patricia A. Kurkul

Regional Administrator

Enclosure

Figure 1

$ALWTRP\ Regulated\ Lobster\ Waters$



HubLine Project – Construction Update

December 2002

Algonquin Gas Transmission Company's ("Algonquin") HubLine Project is a 29.02-mile, 30-inch diameter interstate natural gas pipeline that will be built offshore from Salem to Weymouth, Massachusetts. Algonquin began the initial phases of the construction of its HubLine Project in late September and October.

HubLine has set up a project website (www.hublineupdates.com and www.hublineproject.com) to provide regular updates concerning the locations of pipeline construction. The general route map for the HubLine Project appears on the following pages. The map has been updated to include the approximate widths along the route where construction activity, including anchor spreads or environmental surveys, will occur throughout the construction period. The black line represents the centerline of the pipeline, while the area of potential construction activity is denoted by dotted lines to either side. A similar map, updated daily to highlight ongoing construction activities, is also provided on the Project website under "Updates". In addition, HubLine has placed buoys in the ocean along the actual route to indicate the project corridor. Yellow buoys mark the western edge of the construction activity area and pink buoys mark the eastern edge.

HubLine is broadcasting construction updates each day on local marine channels. Project information is also made available to groups such as the U.S. Coast Guard and local harbormasters. The U.S. Coast Guard will broadcast this information as part of its daily Broadcast Notification to Mariners on channel 16 (156.8 Mhtz). Algonquin will also provide twice daily construction updates on the marine channels listed on the table shown on the next page as offshore construction advances.

The overall construction schedule is as follows. The majority of construction activities, including pipelay and conventional bucket dredging, proposed in the near shore areas (i.e., water depths less than 20 feet) will begin in December and extend until March 15, 2003. The deepwater (i.e., greater than 20 feet) plowing and pipe laying activities are also expected to start in December and continue with final backfilling completed by May 1, 2003. The decision to construct the offshore portions of the HubLine Project during the winter months was a direct result of the Project's discussions with the Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association (the "MLA"). Although the majority of construction activities were not scheduled to begin until November, some limited survey activities, including diving operations, began in late August. In addition, beginning in late September and continuing through the winter, the HubLine Project is using the horizontal directional drill ("HDD") technique in certain near shore areas in order to reduce the impact to important resource areas. These near shore areas include Beverly Harbor, the Weymouth Fore River and Georges Island. Some short segments of the pipeline route also saw localized activity such as barge mooring in support of the HDDs before offshore construction began.

Blasting activities in a limited number of areas will also precede general construction activities, starting in late November. The Coast Guard Captain of the Port has created a safety and security zone for drilling and blasting operations around Drillboat No. 8 and Lablift IV. The safety and security zones will be from 400 to 600 yards around these two vessels when explosives are on board, and will include one hour prior to, during, and one hour after all blasting operations. A Safety Marine Information Broadcast will be made during drilling and blasting operations.

The MLA also asked HubLine to put together a summary of the vessels that will be used and the types of activities that they will support. That information is summarized below. Please note that the dates listed are approximations and are dependent on a number of factors, including weather.

1. Drill 8 - Blasting Vessel in less than 60 fsw

- This vessel is scheduled to perform blasting operations at blast sites B, C and D starting late November. These sites are located to the east/southeast of Cat Island and to the west of Satan Rock, approximately located at Project Milepost 5.
- The duration of this activity is approximately 1 to 2 weeks, pending weather, through mid December.
- This vessel will transit to other blast locations, as necessary.

2. Dredge 53 – Interrogation of blast sites in less than 60 fsw.

- This vessel is currently interrogating blast site E, just north of Project MP 11.
- The vessel will continue interrogating the remaining blasting locations in this water depth. Specifically, sites X1 (MP 11), X2 (MP 11.25), and site G (MP 14.75).

3. Dredge 51 - Interrogation of blast sites in greater than 60 fsw

- This vessel is currently interrogating blast sites along the pipeline route east of Great Brewster Island and Calf Island. There are 4 locations along this segment of the route that need to be investigated to determine the exact depth of the bedrock.
- Upon completion of this activity, the vessel will commence pipeline trenching activities required along the Weymouth Fore River channel. The dredging activities are currently planned to start at MP 26R and continue in a southerly direction along the proposed route. The duration of this activity is estimated to extend through December.

4. American Star (ROV/Dive Vessel) - Obstructions Relocation/Removal

 This vessel is currently performing investigations of various obstructions along the entire pipeline route. There is diving associated with this activity. Once an obstruction has been located, the vessel will anchor over this location and send divers down to assess the situation. Once the object has been relocated off of the pipeline route, the vessel will transit to the next location.

- Upon completion of the above task, the vessel will commence preparation of the pre-lay crossing preparation of the foreign utilities being crossed by the pipeline. Specifically the 360networks fiber optic cable near MP 10.4 and the 60" easterly sewer outfall near MP 25R will be involved.
- This vessel will perform utility crossing work at MP 25.5 associated with the MDC 6" water line between Peddock's Island and Nut Island.

5. DB 801 – Offshore Lay Vessel (OLB)

- This vessel is currently mobilizing from the Gulf of Mexico. ETA is mid to late December.
- The vessel will commence pipe lay activities from the north side of Georges Island and head in a northerly direction.

6. Midnight Rider – Shallow Water Lay Barge (SWLB)

- This vessel is also mobilizing from the Gulf of Mexico. ETA for this vessel is late December.
- The vessel will commence pipe lay activities in the shallow water in the Weymouth Fore River area.

7. DB Boaz – Offshore Bury Barge

- This vessel will arrive on location in January.
- This vessel will perform the plowing activities following the DB 801.

8. Weymouth Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD)

- A jack-up vessel has been positioned at the Weymouth HDD exit location to perform the remaining horizontal direction drill work taking place in Weymouth.
- The jack-up shall remain on location until the drilling has been completed. The current schedule shows completion of drilling around mid to late December.

9. Salem HDD

 A jack-up vessel will also be positioned at the Salem HDD exit location in approximately 2 - 3 weeks and will remain at this location for 4 to 6 weeks, or until late January.

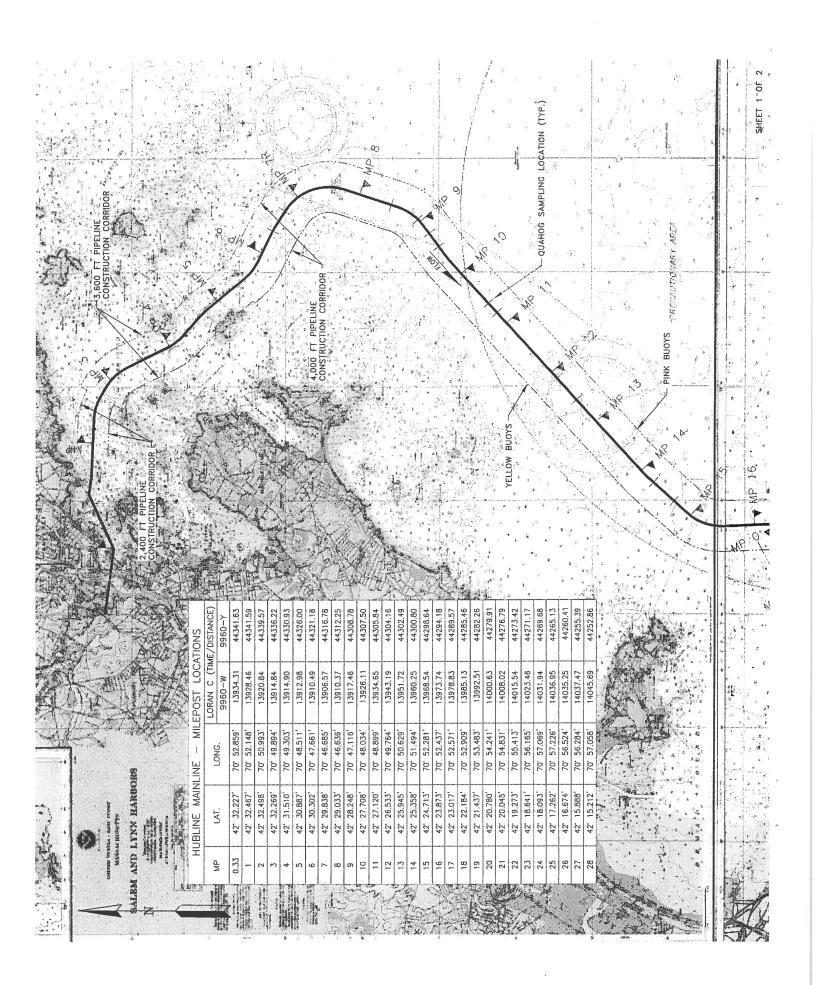
10. Beverly HDD

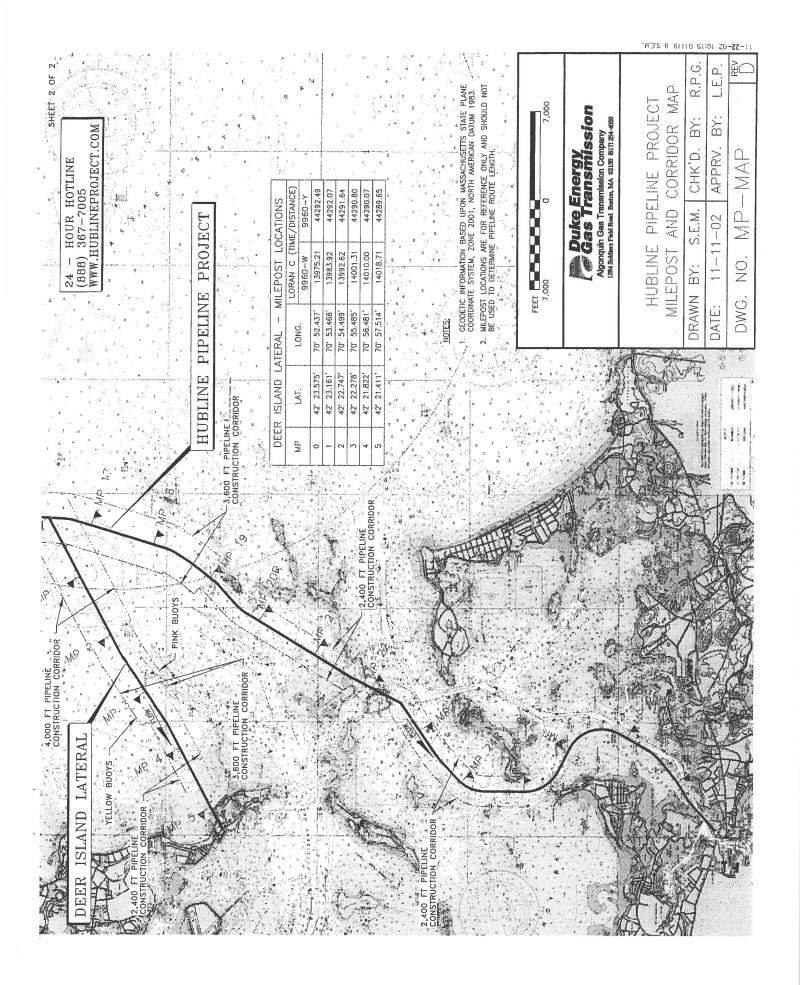
- A third Jack-up vessel will be positioned on the Northeast side of the Beverly Channel to commence installation of the Beverly HDD. This vessel is currently in transit and should arrive by mid December.
- Once on location, the estimated duration of this activity is 3 4 months.

The current activities described for the above vessels are subject to change due to weather and/or any other unforeseen occurrences. Please refer to the project website for up-to-date information.

Please use the information sources discussed above to follow the progress being made by the HubLine Project during construction. Algonquin has also designated Mark McConnell as the Issues Resolution Coordinator for Algonquin's 24-hour Landowner Hotline. If individual questions arise, Algonquin would urge you to contact Mark toll-free at 1-888-367-7005. Mark or a Project representative will respond to your call as soon as practicable, but in any event within 48 hours.

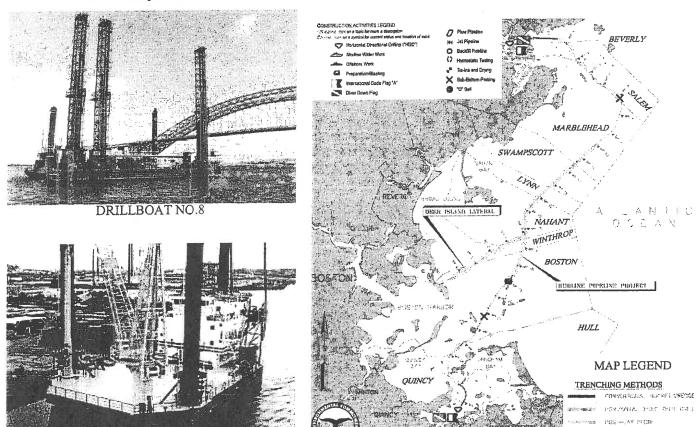
Lobstermen Information					
Location/Area	Channel Broadcast Operation	Notification Timetable			
Beverly, Salem and Marblehead	Channel 6 and 19	7:00 AM & 12 Noon Daily			
Swampscott, Lynn and Nahant	Channel 80	7:00 AM & 12 Noon Daily			
Deer Island Lateral	Channel 79	7:00 AM & 12 Noon Daily			
Lovell Island to Deer Island Tap	Channels 77 and 79	7:00 AM & 12 Noon Daily			
Lovell Island (south) to Weymouth	Channels 65 and 77	7:00 AM & 12 Noon Daily			





HUBLINE PROJECT BLASTING OPERATIONS SAFETY AND SECURITY ZONES

As part of the Hubline Gas Pipeline Project, the Coast Guard Captain of the Port has created a safety and security zone for drilling and blasting operations around the DRILLBOAT NO. 8 and LABLIFT IV. These vessels will be conducting drilling and blasting operations along the Massachusetts coastline from Salem to Quincy, MA.



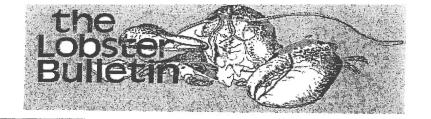
The safety and security zone will be 400 yards around the DRILLBOAT NO. 8 and LABLIFT IV while operating in Danvers, MA, the Danvers River, Salem Sound, Broad Sound, Nantasket Roads, Quincy Bay and Weymouth Fore River to Quincy, MA, Boston Harbor, or any location the vessels may have to shelter in emergency situations.

During Blast Operations the safety and security zone extends to 600 yards around the vessels DRILLBOAT NO.8 AND LABLIFT IV one hour prior to, during, and one hour after all blasting operations.

LABLIFT IV

The safety and security zones are in effect only when explosives are on board the DRILLBOAT NO.8 and LABLIFT IV or when loading and unloading operations are in progress at Conley Marine Terminal. These zones are effective from 12:00 a.m. November 18, 2002 through 11:59 p.m. February 28, 2002.

A Safety Marine Information Broadcast will be made during drilling and blasting operations. Information will also be available in the Local Notice to mariners and on the Web at www.hublineproject.com including daily project updates and equipment positions.



"News, research updates, and information on lobsters and the lobster industry."

Published by the Lobster Institute

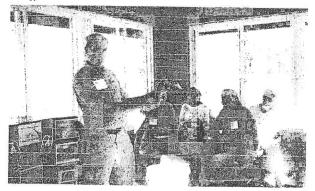
"Protecting and conserving the lobster, and enhancing lobstering as an industry...and a way of life."

Educational Programs a Big Part of Lobster Institute's Summer Activities

The Lobster Institute provided a number of educational programs throughout this past summer. Most notably, the Institute hosted its second Lobster College – a learning vacation where folks spend a long weekend on the coast of Maine and are immersed in learning everything there is to know about the lobster industry. Lobster College students came from as far away as California and Arizona to learn about lobster biology, cuisine, history, and other related topics. Also part of the curriculum were field trips to a working lobster wharf and a lobster boat excursion. The event was well received by all. As one participant wrote, "The words great and excellent are much overused in our society, but these words must be used to describe this program."

Other educational activities included presentations for a conference of economics educators; a lecture as part of Downeast Senior College; talks at a variety of community lecture series; participation in the LFA 34 lobster workshop in Nova Scotia; and the Institute's own annual Friends of the Lobster Institute luncheon.

Organizations or schools interested in contacting the Lobster Institute about presentations can call Cathy Billings at 207-581-2751.



Dr. Bob Bayer displays a blue lobster at the annual Friends of the Lobster Institute luncheon held in August at Tidal Falls. The lobster, "Old Blue", was donated to the Institute by Jim Stone, a lobsterman from Rockland, Maine.

Lobster Institute Helps Bring Wood Composite Trap Runners to the Market

With help from a Maine Technology Institute Seed Grant in the Fall of 2001, the Lobster Institute and the University of Maine's Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center developed a prototype lobster trap runner made of wood composite materials. The composite is a formula of wood, sawdust, and plastic polymer. The material is not susceptible to rot or invasion by ship worms.

Bob Brown of Sealure North American, LLC distributed the prototype trap runners to lobstermen and also installed and tested the runners on his own traps. After some modifications, the concept was picked up by CorrectDeck of Biddeford, Maine who now produce the runners for the commercial market.

According to CorrectDeck, the runners have a 1.2 specific gravity, allowing them to sink in water while using less weight in traps as compared to traditional runners. The composite material used by CorrectDeck has a moisture absorption rate of less than 1% and a 50-year lifetime. Plante's Lobster Escape Vents, Inc. of Somerville, Maine, is distributing the runners.





LOBSTER INSTITUTE

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The University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469-5763
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www.lobsterinstitute.org

A unit of the Maine Agricultural & Forest Experiment Station

A member of the University of Maine System

Cathy Billings, Editor

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POINT – COUNTERPOINT: Opposing Editorials on the Use of Quotas as a Management Tool in the Lobster Fishery.

The Lobster Bulletin will feature opposing editorials discussing the use of quotas as a management tool in the lobster fishery – one in the Fall 2002 issue and one in the Winter 2003 issue. By luck of the draw the editorial in this Fall 2002 issue is an opinion opposing quotas, offered by Wayne Spinney, a lobsterman from Nova Scotia. Our next issue, Winter 2003, will feature an opinion in favor of quotas offered by Dick Allen, a lobsterman from Rhode Island. Please note that editorial commentary does not necessarily reflect the views of the Lobster Institute. We invite reader feedback.

Quota Management System Will Be Destructive to Lobster Fishery

Editorial comment by
L. Wayne Spinney, Lobster Fisherman
L.F.A.34, South West Nova Scotia, Canada.

At a recent workshop on Oct.1st and 2nd held in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, the inshore lobster harvesters and their representatives notified Mr. Neil Bellefontaine, Regional Director General of the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), that they are again unanimous in opposing the use of 'quota' and or 'transferable tags' as tools for conservation or management in the lobster industry. To implement 'quota' as a management tool while witnessing catastrophes for years in other fisheries governed with this mechanism is inexplicable.

Thousands of maritime families can testify to the devastation and horror resulting from poor fisheries management since the implementation of the quota system. A system made to look very enticing by large initial individual quota allocations. Each year thereafter the inshore fleet faced quota allocation cuts that forced many fish harvesters out of the industry. Larger companies purchased and stockpiled quota or 'paper fish.' This caused quota prices to increase to the level that owner/operators could not afford enough quota to make their enterprise viable. 'Paper fish' exchanged or auctioned off became only affordable to corporate fleet owners.

In hindsight, the set up for the destruction of a fleet and the demise of a fish species is obvious as a result of a 'quota' management system. The same strategy has been used species by species here in Canada. The herring, cod, haddock, pollock, flounder and the scallop fishery all followed similar patterns of ruin. Are we to allow our lobster industry to be next?

The traditional inshore fishery is an economic system where most vessels support three or more families. Documented proof shows that profits stay in the communities and region. Indirect jobs are created both locally and in other provinces through supplies and services required to maintain the fleet and the families

employed within the industry. Most corporations export profits from the region and from Canada.

In addition, the current pay for lobster crewmembers average between 12% to 15% of gross catch, even as the industry is hit with increasing costs and user fees. This differs from a corporate owned vessel where a crew's pay may be only 1% to 3% of gross catch.

The corporate goal is vertical integration of the fisheries. This means huge companies own the quota, vessel, captain, crew, processing plant, etc. The argument that 50 corporate lobster vessels in L.F.A. 34 would be more economically efficient than the inshore fleet of nearly 970 vessels is ludicrous. This corporate fleet will be smaller in numbers only. They will be fishing year round, using any amount of gear as determined by the owner. This non-conservation quota system will increase effort as witnessed in other fisheries.

The present management practice has proven to work for sustainable conservation in the inshore lobster fishery for decades. A seasonal lobster fishery allows the lobsters to molt, to mate, to spawn, etc. Other conservation measures in place include: limited number of traps per license, restricted trap size, minimum carapace size, minimum size escape hatches, v-notching of berried lobsters, and the presence of conservation officers, etc. These conservation tools exceed lobster conservation requirements if proper enforcement is in place. We have been and continue to be true stewards of a renewable resource ensuring a fishery for future generations of families living in coastal communities. *



Check out the Lobster Institute website at www.lobster.um.maine.edu/lobster ----providing the definitive site for lobster informationwith nearly 200 links.

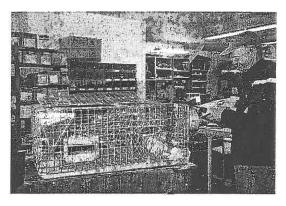




RESEARCH REPORT

Readers may contact the Lobster Institute for more detailed information on any of the projects reported.

- ❖ Audio Recordings of Lobsters Dr. Bob Bayer of the Lobster Institute, and Rob Rosenthal of Shunpike Audio in South Portland Maine have been attempting to record any sounds emitted by lobsters held in tanks by using a hydrophone. To-date, no sounds have been heard.
 - The spiney lobster, which does not have the large claws of the American lobster, does emit a raspy sound that is thought to be a defense mechanism.
- Lobster Cam Goes Dark Again The Lobster Institute's Lobster Cam was up and running again this summer for just two days before once again going dark. Lobster Cam is an underwater camera mounted inside a lobster trap that provides real-time video viewing via the Internet. Earlier in the year the camera's mounting brackets rusted out and the camera was dark for several months while a student researcher worked on developing a new system to secure the camera to the trap. When that work was completed, the trap and camera were re-submerged in Rockland Harbor, Maine. Within two short days the video again went dark and it was discovered the camera needed to be replaced. The Lobster Institute and the Internet provider for Lobster Cam, MidCoast Internet Solutions, are searching for a replacement camera. Sealure North American, LLC is a sponsor of Lobster Cam, which can be found via the Lobster Institute's website at www.lobsterinstitute.org. Archived shots from Lobster Cam are also available for viewing on the site.



Dr. John Riley, a Lobster Institute cooperating research professor, works on repairing the fittings for Lobster Cam prior to its placement in Rockland Harbor, Maine.

- * Refractometry Used to Analyze Blood Protein in Lobsters -University of Maine researchers Dr. Gulni Ozbay and Dr. John Riley recently published the results of their studies on using refractometric methods in determining whole blood protein concentrations in lobster ("An analysis of refractometry as a method of determining blood total protein concentration in the American lobster Homarus americanus" Aquaculture Research, 2002, 33, 557-562). They concluded that, "Refractometry as a method is reliable to determine blood total protein concentrations in the American lobster. Consequently, a refractometric method can be used directly by commercial distributors to assess responses to holding facility conditions and to feeding regimes." They went on to say, "Whole blood protein concentrations may provide more information than serum protein concentrations." For more information, please consult Aquaculture Research or contact the Lobster Institute.
- ❖ 2001-2002 Report on Lobster Pound Shrinkage The Lobster Institute has compiled the results for the Maine Lobster Pound Association's 2001-02 Pound Survey. With 14 pounds reporting, the average shrink was 11.9% -- with a range from .75% to 25%.
- Bayer Named to Northeast Consortium Advisory Committee - Dr. Robert Bayer, Executive Director of the Lobster Institute, was recently named to the Consortium Northeast Advisory Committee. Established in 1999, the Northeast Consortium encourages and funds partnerships commercial fishermen, researchers, and stakeholders for cooperative research development of selective fishing gear technology. Their focus area is the Gulf of Maine and Georges Commercial fishermen are encouraged to participate in research activities and Consortium funding may be available to equip their fishing vessels for research purposes. The Consortium is an integrated effort between four institutions: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Maine, University of New Hampshire, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. For information about the Northeast Consortium check their Web site at www.northeastconsortium.org.

Lobster Institute 210 Rogers Hall The University of Maine Orono, ME 04469



Lobster Bulletin, Fall 2002

Maine Fishermen's Forum **Provides Scholarships**

The Maine Fishermen's Forum Board of Directors offers scholarships to benefit immediate family members (son/daughter/grandchild) of anyone actively involved in Maine's seafood industry. Ten \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded by a random drawing at the 2003 Maine Fishermen's Forum (2/27-3/2). Undergraduates at a two or four year college who are in the second year of their program are eligible. Applications will be accepted through February 25 and can be obtained by calling 207-442-7700, or by downloading from the Forum Web site at www.maineseafood.org.

2002 Roll Call of Donors to be Published in Lobster Bulletin

The Lobster Institute will publish its 2002 "Roll Call of Donors" in the Winter 2003 Lobster Bulletin. Those who contributed to the Institute during calendar year 2002 will be listed. If any contributor does not want their name published they may contact Cathy Billings at the Institute (207-581-2751) by January 15, 2002.

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Support the Lobster Institute through our Partner Providers Program

Visit our website at www.lobsterinstitute.org and link to our Partner Providers:

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The Lobster Institute can work with you and your town's Board of Selectmen to explore opportunities to secure critical properties for coastal access for fishermen in your community. We can serve as a liaison to possible funding sources and organizations that can help you through the process. Contact the Lobster Institute at 581-2785.



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BOOK SIGNING:

Author Robert Delano Martin will be at the Annual Weekend for a book signing. He will have his book *The Tale of the Lobster* available for purchase and will autograph all copies. Stop by, pick up a copy (or 2) of his book and have him personally autograph it for you.

From: Marti Gastineau, 1stBooks Library Tel: 800-839-8640 ext.234 Fax: 812-339-6554

L is for Lobster

Astonish your friend with your know-how about the American lobster!

BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS—Robert Delano Martin presents a thorough review of lobster fisheries, for the casual and scholarly reader in The Tale of the Lobster: A Practical Guide to the American Lobster, The Inshore and Offshore Lobster Fisheries, and the Hardy Souls That Pursue One of the Ocean's Finest Delicacies (E-book version now available through 1stbooks Library, hardcover and paperback available soon).

The Tale of the Lobster delves into all aspects of the lifestyle of this remarkable crustacean, including a factual account of how, when, and where lobsters are caught by the brawny inshore and offshore "Lobstermen."

Learn about the many conditions and restraints placed upon the American lobster industry. Reinforce your knowledge of the lobster by referencing the handy "Lobster Dictionary" provided for you by Martin. In addition, Martin includes a compilation of answers to the most commonly asked questions about the lobster.

Gain insight into the savvy satisfaction of knowing the proper way to buy, cook, and eat the lovable lobster. Come aboard a typical lobster boat for a pictorial review of a day of "lobstering" off the coast of Maine.

The author's familiarity with his subject—the American lobster—is derived from close study of the animal through data research, by going out fishing with various lobstermen, and as an outcome of discussions with lobster marine scientists and other parties working with lobsters at the state and federal levels. It is through these interactions and much time spent in and around the coastal lobster fishery that the author is able to bring the reader up close and personal to his subject—the American lobster—Homarus americanus.

Robert Delano Martin is a long-time resident of Beverly, Massachusetts, and has a wonderful marriage of more than forty-eight years. He is the father of four grown children. He's a graduate of Northeastern University, a veteran of the USAF and the Korean War.

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11/22/2002

CAPE COD TIMES

GOVERNMENT MAY EXPAND RIGHT WHALE PROTECTIONS

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON - An environmental group hoping to strengthen protections for rare right whales has asked the federal government to expand the whale breeding and living areas that are shielded by the Endangered Species Act.

The National Marine Fisheries Service last week said it would consider a petition by the Ocean Conservancy to expand so-called "critical habitats" in New England waters and off the southeastern coast, where North Atlantic right whales live.

The critical habitat designation recognizes an area as vital to an endangered species. It doesn't guarantee tighter restrictions for fishermen, shippers or others who share the waters with whales, though some fear that would result.

"They're going to bleed this for all it's worth," said Gary Ostrom, vice president of the Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association.

NMFS spokesman George Liles said if the petition is approved, the fisheries service will review existing rules, and could make changes.

The petition is open to public comment. NMFS must make a final decision by next July.

There are only 300 to 350 North Atlantic right whales remaining, and five died this year. Ship strikes and fishing gear entanglements are frequent causes of whale deaths. Restrictions to protect whales include closing fishing areas when the whales are nearby, reducing ship speeds and requiring the use of special fishing gear that breaks if a whale is caught.

Under the Ocean Conservancy petition, the water between existing http://www.capecodonline.com/cgi-bin/print/printstory.cgi

critical habitat areas in Cape Cod Bay and the Great South Channel would also be labeled a critical habitat, as would additional areas running about 10 miles north and 110 miles east of Provincetown.

Off Georgia and Florida, where the whales breed, the plan would add roughly 2,700 square nautical miles to the whale habitat.

Much of the new critical habitat areas already have restrictions to protect the whales under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

But those restrictions can be abandoned relatively easily, while rules adopted under the Endangered Species Act are tougher because they must remain in place until the whales are out of danger, said Nina Young of the Ocean Conservancy.

Expanding the habitat designation also recognizes new science that shows the whales move in a much broader area than first thought, she said. "It's not a case of an evil environmental group coming down and looking for more regulations," Young said.

Young said the Ocean Conservancy would continue to work with the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team, a groups of scientists, fisherman and conservationists that recommends measures to prevent whale deaths.

(Published: November 22, 2002)

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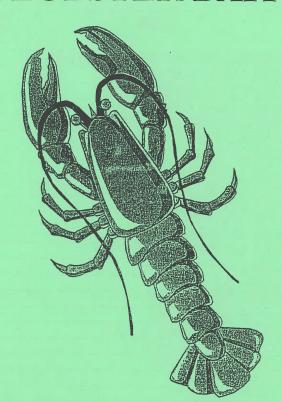
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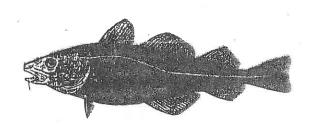
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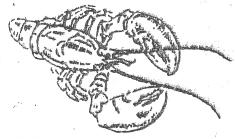
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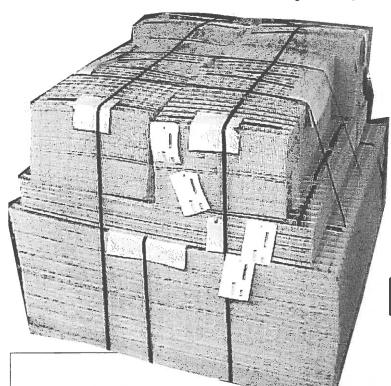
Socks

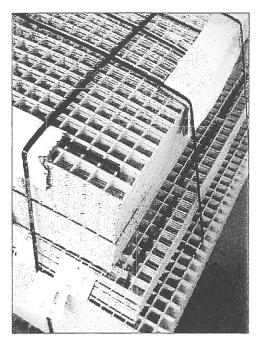


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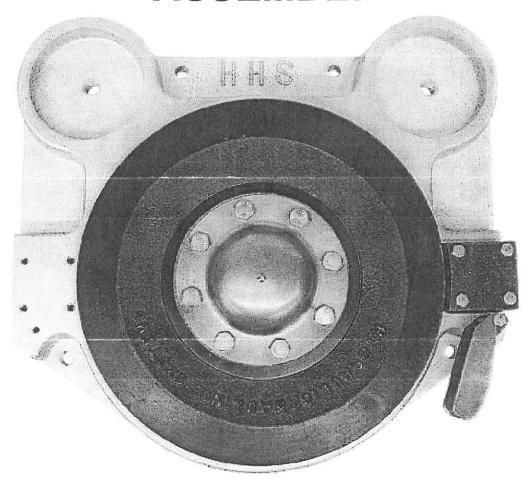
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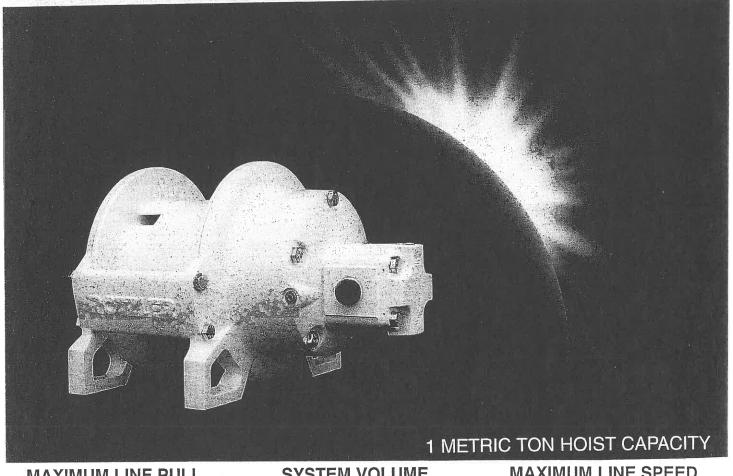
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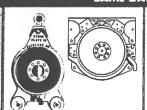
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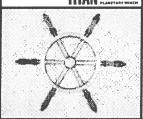


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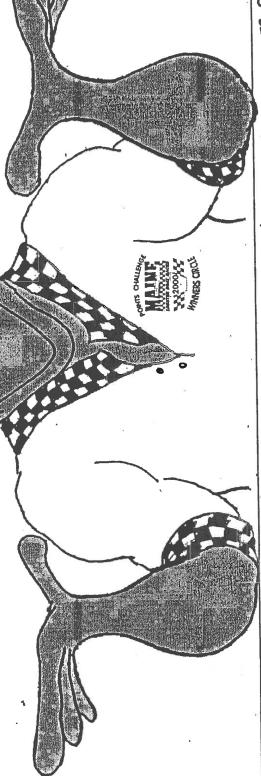
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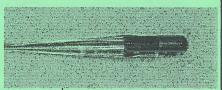
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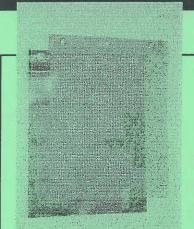


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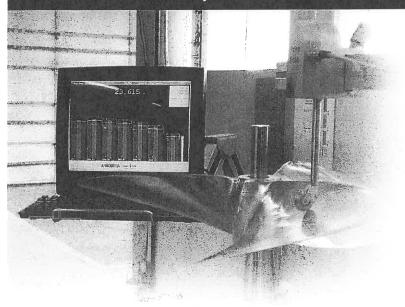
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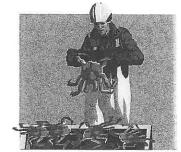
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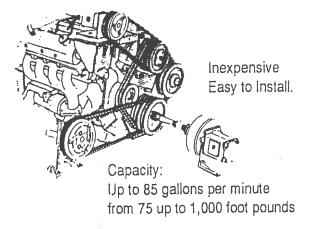
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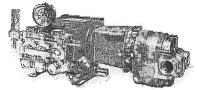
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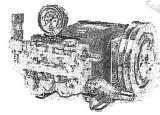
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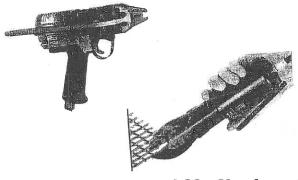
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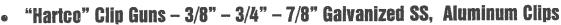
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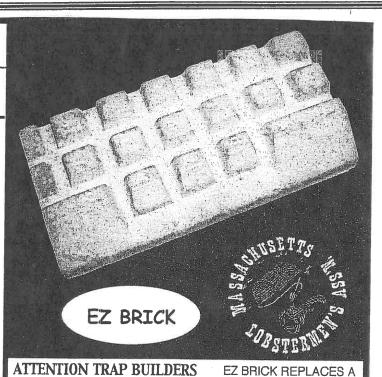
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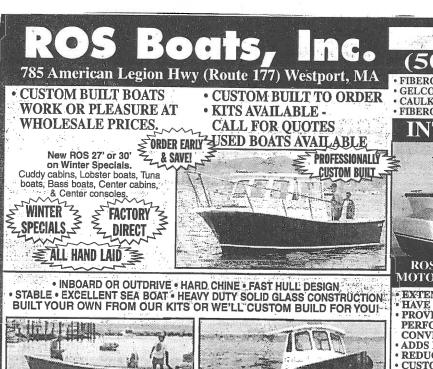
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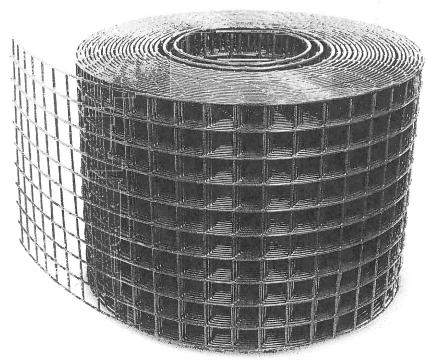
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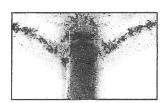
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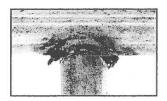
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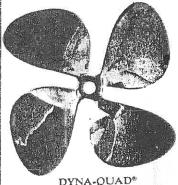
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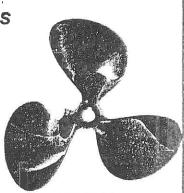
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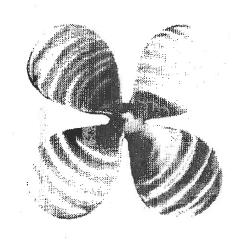
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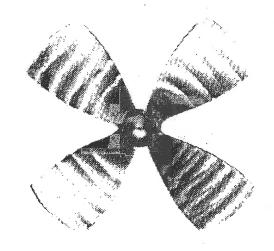
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