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A tribute to a Brant Rock lobsterman

By CARLI STEWART

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When Sandra Staples-Bortner set out to write *Finest Kind: Tales of a Brant Rock Lobsterman*, she wasn't chasing a bestseller, she was simply trying to capture her father's stories before they slipped away.

"My dad was always telling stories," she said. "More about his Navy days, really. He was obsessed with those stories in his 80s, telling them over and over again. My brother, who lived nearby and saw him frequently, was getting overwhelmed. So I said, 'Let's write them down, if we don't, we might actually forget them.'"

The simple act of preservation turned into a heartfelt, generational record of the South Shore fishing heritage in Massachusetts. The book is centered on her father, Donal Staples, a respected lobsterman from Brant Rock, and the connection between working waterfronts and the people who keep them afloat.

Staples-Bortner grew up in a family of five children, and her father was one of eight children whom he also helped support from a young age. He was born in 1927 and grew up during the Great Depression. He was often called away from playing to catch dinner for the family at the nearby harbor. By the age of 11, he was sent off on a skiff to haul ten traps in the summer.

"My grandmother ran a little store in the front room of their house and sold the lobsters he caught to summer people," Staples-Bortner shared. "He also collected Irish moss, a seaweed, with his younger sister, that they sold to a dealer to be used as a food additive."

WELCOME TO LOBSTERING

Years later, her father's influence as a commercial fisherman would ripple well beyond their family and the little store. Known for mentoring younger lobstermen and maintaining a spotless boat, he was also deeply involved in the early days of the **South Shore Lobster Fishermen's Association** and the **Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association (MLA)**, where he served for decades on the board of directors.

"I found a newspaper clipping from 1964 with him pictured at a South Shore Lobster Fishermen's Association dinner. He was 36 and already a leader. He was president for a while, and then he moved on to help expand the group into the statewide MLA," she said. "When the MLA founded the nonprofit boat insurance co-op in 1977 to help fishermen get coverage, I remember the family conversations. He was there for all of it."

But even as he shaped state fisheries policy through associations, her father never stopped showing up for the next generation.

"There's a chapter in the book called 'Welcome to Lobstering' that's all about the younger guys," Staples-Bortner said. "He always checked in on them, made sure they weren't doing anything too crazy. He wasn't the kind of old-timer who scoffed at the young ones- he respected them, and in return, they respected him."

The sense of community, as exemplified by an older fisherman and the next generation of fishermen, is the heart of *Finest Kind*. It's not just a portrait of one lobsterman, but a way of life rooted in family, independence, and coastal grit.



STAPLES-BORTNER'S FAMILY ROOTS

As a self-described "non-profit lifer" with a background in wild-life biology and communications, Staples-Bortner is no stranger to storytelling with a purpose. After retiring from her role as executive director of the Great Peninsula Conservancy in Washington State, she knew she wanted to keep writing. Her father's passing during the COVID-19 pandemic, while in residence at the Maine Veterans' Home in Scarborough, became the catalyst.

"He had been there a year before COVID, and really loved it, there were other men his age with Navy backgrounds, and he felt at home," she shared. "But during the lockdown, he was basically confined to his room for most of a year. It was so hard on him. That period became the

last chapter of his story, and I knew I needed to tell it."

With input from family members and interviews with fellow lobstermen who knew her father well, Staples-Bortner began weaving a fuller picture, not just of his work on the water, but of his roots. The book traces deep family lines back to coastal Maine, from sea captains in Islesboro to fishermen in Southern and Mid-Coast Maine. Even the boats her father ran for decades have a Maine story behind them.

"He had two Bobby Rich boats, which were built in Bernard, Maine," she said. "Marshfield, where he lived, had more Bobby Rich boats than almost anywhere outside of Maine. There was this whole web of connec-



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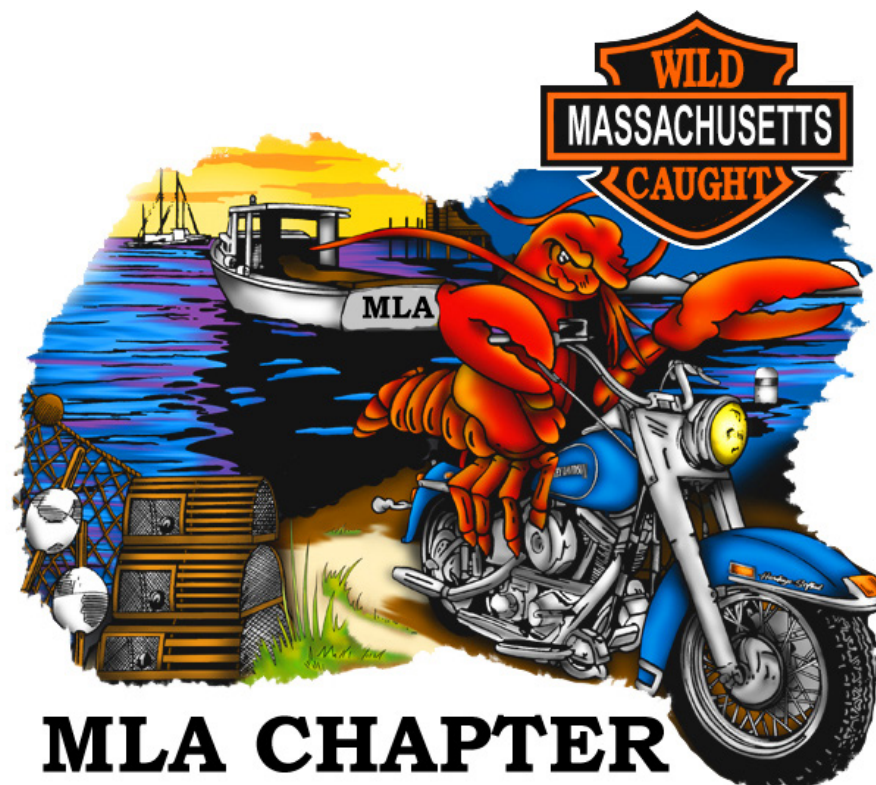
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MLA CHAPTER

IN MEMORIAL



Richard E. Cassola

It is with the heaviest of hearts that we must tell you, that Richard E. Cassola of Beverly, died on June 8, 2025, after a long illness. Born in Beverly, he was the son of the late John and Ellen (Clay) Cassola.

Richard was a graduate of Beverly High School. Upon graduation from high school, he served in the U.S. Army National Guard reserve. Richard also was employed by the Essex County Sheriff's Department as a corrections officer at the old Salem Jail. He continued his law enforcement career joining the Beverly Police department in 1977 and retired at the rank of Sergeant in 2010. Further Richard since High School fished as a lobsterman, and built his own boat, the "Becalm" with the assistance of his uncle. Richard was a lifelong member of the Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association. To his friends he would also greet them with "hey pal" or "pal of mine".

Richard is survived by his nephew, Michael Cassola and his wife Darlene of Beverly; his niece Kristin Parisella and her husband Jim of Danvers and their families; his sister-in-law Patricia Cassola of Beverly; and his cousin Kathy Morano of Danvers. He was predeceased by his brother John A. Cassola.

Funeral services for Richard are private. Contributions may be made in Richard's memory to the Beverly Police Relief Association c/o Steve Fiore, 175 Elliot Street, Beverly. Arrangements by the Campbell Funeral Home, 525 Cabot Street, Beverly. Information, directions, condolences at www.campbellfuneral.com

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

NEW MLA MEMBERS:

MICHAEL HOLUBESKO

F/V: Miss Nellie
Port: Sandwich

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F/V: Dakota Rose
Port: Tiverton, RI



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As the HAULER TURNS

Happy Independence Day! What better way to kick off the summer than with the celebration of our Nations birthday and some fresh lobsters. The start of the summer sure has been as unpredictable weather wise as the Red Sox. Hopefully, we will finish off the season with a grand slam and your lobster pots will be as full as the bases.

By the time you are reading this, the MA Marine Fisheries Commission held its 2nd meeting on July 1st to rescind the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) Addendum XXXII measures that were implemented in Massachusetts well in advance of July 1, 2025, implementation date. The Commission voted to approve the recommendations to repeal these measures.

Nevertheless, Massachusetts was out ahead of the other states to implement these measures just when Maine withdrew their support. The ASMFC then implemented Addendum XXXII which “repeals all changes to gauge and escape vent sizes established by Addendum XXVII, including the change to the maximum gauge size required in OCC established in Section 3.1 and the minimum and maximum gauge size changes triggered under Section 3.2. In LCMA 3 and OCC, the minimum gauge is 3 3/8” and the maximum gauge is 6 3/4”. The minimum gauge in LCMA 1 is 3 1/4” and the maximum gauge is 5”. See https://asmfc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/AmLobsterAddendumXXXII_May2025.pdf

Unfortunately, there is one component missing from this action and that is the V-Notch definition change that was left in for the Outer Cape Cod Lobster Conservation Management Area (OCCLCMA) which left the ~30 State only OCCLCMA commercial lobstermen with the only management change which does nothing for conservation and is for standardization. Their V-notch definition is now going to be (as of July 1, 2025) a possession standard of 1/8” depth with or without setal hairs for the OCCLCMA. The Outer Cape Cod Lobstermen's Association has filed litigation against the Commonwealth and ASMFC. Stay tuned!

What a fisheries management nightmare this has been. This process has now become politically problematic and unpredictable, and this does not sit well. The stress of the looming gauge increases over the last few years has been real and unfair as the Massachusetts fleet has yet again endured the threat of more restrictions than any other state.

We are eager to see what the new American Lobster Stock Assessment has to say about the overall health of the stock later this summer. Once we have this in-house, we will share it with you all so that you too can stay informed as to what is to come.

Enjoy your summer and may your lobster pots be forever full,

Beth Casoni

Executive Director



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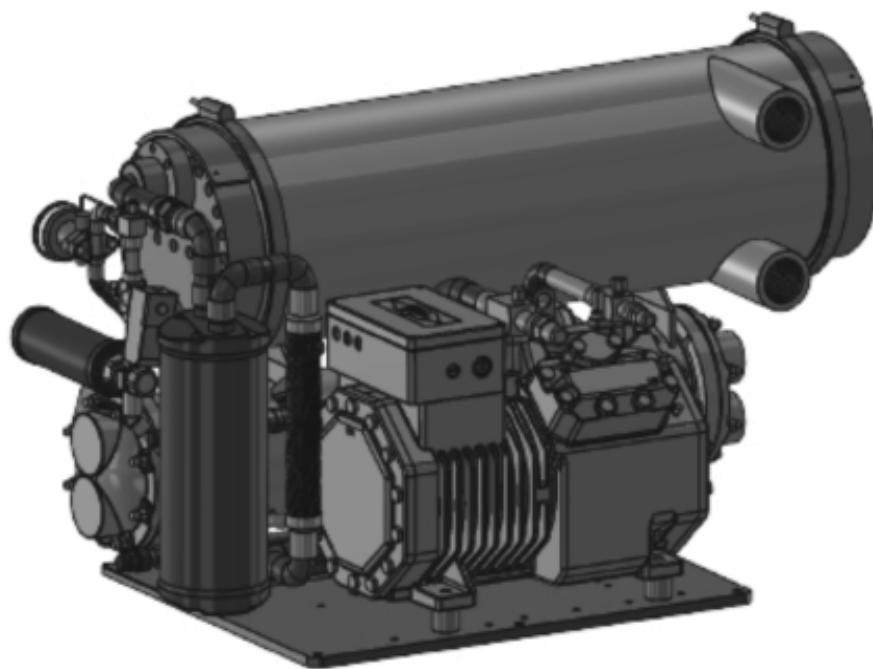
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Fixed Gear Fishermen of Massachusetts,

MarineFisheries will be conducting its annual fall trawl survey throughout state coastal waters beginning September 2, 2025. Surveys have been conducted each May and September since 1978 to provide a consistent sampling of benthic fishes and mobile invertebrates. Survey data is used to monitor the condition of various marine stocks. The data is also used to inform the environmental review process, which advises on ways to minimize construction impacts on fisheries resources. Maintaining access to the planned sampling sites is critical to the integrity of the survey.

Please review the live map on our website for all remaining tow locations. The map can be found on our website (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/review-trawl-survey-updates>). The live map has a feature which allows you to display your current location. On the upper lefthand side of the map page, select the "scope icon" button  just below the home button. With the location feature toggled on, your device will display your live location on the map in relation to tow circles and historical tows. This feature can be used to assure gear is not in conflict with planned tows. **We kindly ask for your cooperation and insist that all fixed gear be kept clear of the shaded station tow circles by the dates listed in the table.** The coordinates of each selected point are provided. The live map shows the station with a 1.5 n. mi. diameter circle around the selected point. All station circles are trimmed to the appropriate stratum which represents actual station outline. This survey notice can also be accessed on our website (<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/review-trawl-survey-updates>). We will make every attempt to complete stations as timely as possible to minimize inconvenience to fixed gear fishermen. Completed stations will be updated and announced daily to notify fishermen that gear can be returned to the area. *MarineFisheries* is prepared to attach restrictions to permits (under 322 CMR 7.01 (7)), mandating that fixed gear is not set on designated trawl survey sites between the announced date and notification of station completion. It remains our hope that this action will be unnecessary.

Each day the MLA will be notified of survey progress and all completed stations will be removed from the live map. The Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association will also post survey information on their webpage (<http://www.lobstermen.com>), as well as on Facebook (username: lobstermensassoc) and Twitter (handle: @masslobstermens).

In the event of a delay due to weather, the schedule will be resumed as soon as working conditions permit. Fishermen can contact the R/V *Gloria Michelle* on VHF channels 13 or 16 to determine the updated daily schedule.

Personnel aboard the NOAA R/V *Gloria Michelle*, a 65' western rigged steel stern trawler with a blue hull and white deckhouse, will carefully check each site for marked gear by cruising along a selected tow path before the net is set. Twenty-minute tows undertaken at 2.5 knots cover approximately 0.8 nautical miles. We encourage communicating helpful information to the R/V officers (via channels 13 or 16).

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and is vital to the effective monitoring of marine resources in the Commonwealth. If you have any questions about the survey, please contact me (steve.wilcox@mass.gov or 508-742-9731. If you have any questions about the *MarineFisheries* website, or Facebook, please contact Story Reed (story.reed@mass.gov or 617-626-1524).

Sincerely,

Steven Wilcox

Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist

Cc. Dan McKiernan, Director

Testing a climate solution in the ocean: An update on the **loc-ness** project



The **LOC-NESS** (Locking Ocean Carbon in the Northeast Shelf and Slope) project is a scientific research effort to study a potential climate solution called **ocean alkalinity enhancement (OAE)**. OAE accelerates natural processes that draw carbon dioxide from the atmosphere into the ocean, while also reducing ocean acidification. This research is designed to transparently and rigorously evaluate the environmental impacts and efficacy of OAE. The project is funded entirely via philanthropy and government sources and is **not selling credits** on the carbon market. It has five core components:

1. *Evaluating how local ocean conditions and human activities interact with OAE.*
2. *Conducting lab experiments to assess biological effects and engineering safety.*
3. *Designing and executing a small-scale, carefully monitored field trial.*
4. *Using ocean modeling to scale findings.*
5. *Engaging with communities about OAE and the project.*

Since the LOCNESS team's presentation at the MLA Expo in January, we have made progress on each of these components. Over the past year, through more than 50 community engagement events, discussions, and industry listening sessions—including with commercial fishers—key questions arose about the risks to marine species. Responding to this, we conducted a baseline analysis across the U.S. Northeast region, identifying areas with low biological and fishing



Daniel Hentz/©Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

A series of lab experiments with the copepod *Calanus finmarchicus*, a key food web species in the region were conducted in early 2025.

activity to minimize potential impacts. This led to the selection of **Wilkinson Basin in the Gulf of Maine** as the field trial site for its relatively low summer ecological activity.

In the winter and spring, we conducted a series of lab experiments with the copepod *Calanus finmarchicus*, a key food web species in the region. Team members collected copepods from Cape Cod Bay and reared them under conditions mimicking those expected during the field trial. Preliminary results showed **no impact on mortality or behavior** after short-term exposure to elevated pH and alkalinity, even after a return to normal seawater. These experiments will continue, and we will share updates as they become available.

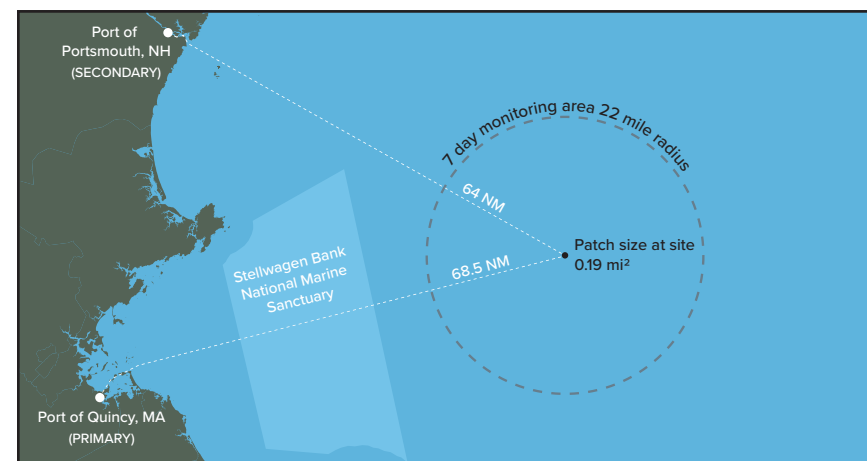
In March 2025, the team conducted nearly full-scale engineering tests at the **Ohmsett Facility** located on a naval base in New Jersey, in a 600-ft long tank holding 2.6 million gallons of seawater. Using oceanographic sensors, LOC-NESS scientists and engineers observed how the alkalinity solution mixed and diluted in real time. Over a week,

550 gallons of alkalinity were released along with a non-toxic pink dye tracer, **successfully confirming the pumping and fast dilution** planned for the summer field work.

In April 2025, LOC-NESS was granted a permit by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) after an extensive review process that spanned more than a year, including two public comment periods totaling 72 days. The EPA determined that the project **“demonstrates sci-**

entific rigor” and is **“not expected to significantly affect human health, the marine environment or other uses of the ocean.”**

As a result, the small-scale, highly monitored field trial will occur in the Wilkinson Basin of the Gulf of Maine later this summer. Throughout the permit process, the EPA's consultations with federal agencies, including NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, found that there is **minimal potential**



Map of the Wilkinson Basin OAE experiment scheduled for Summer 2025. The black dot shows the size of the experiment itself. The dotted circle shows the 7-day monitoring area where mariners might encounter the research vessel Connecticut.

environmental impact. The EPA permit allows for the controlled, gradual addition of up to 17,000 gallons of alkalinity—in this case, highly purified sodium hydroxide, a common drinking water treatment compound—into the surface ocean. Models predict the initial pH increase will quickly dilute to 8.4 and return to typical ocean pH (8.0–8.1) within days.

Monitoring will include **autonomous gliders and three research vessels** on Day 1, followed by **continuous tracking for seven days** using a single vessel and the gliders. The dispersal location is approximately 42° 32' 33"N, 69° 31' 15"W. Notices to mariners will be sent out two weeks before glider deployment, and two weeks before the experiment will occur. Protected species observers will be on the research vessel during the dispersal process, along with real-time monitoring of physical,



©Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Nearly full-scale engineering tests took place this past spring at the Ohmsett Facility located on a naval base in New Jersey, in a 600-ft long tank holding 2.6 million gallons of seawater.

chemical, and biological parameters of ocean waters. No restrictions will be placed on fishing or vessel activity during the experiment. The LOC-NESS team looks

forward to sharing more results from the project when they are available and are committed to transparent and open-access data sharing.



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MLA attends the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries *Marine Quest Event*

On Saturday, June 14th, MLA Secretary/Treasurer, Dave Casoni, attended the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) held a day long, public education, field day at their CAT Cove Headquarters in Salem, MA. This day was designed to educate the public, primarily the youth, on the wide variety of sciences the division undertakes.

More than twenty separate “tents” presented their science, projects and presentations in a manner that was designed for kids! They made their mark, from crab races to fishing catches and

how to report their catch. There was even traditional face painting as well as experiencing the act of “scuba diving”, the kids were able to put on a snorkel face mask that was attached to a scuba tank paired with a mouthpiece for breathing, that way they could put their heads in the water. This activity allowed a chance for the older kids to get involved in the day’s festivities and get a chance to test their knowledge, touch, and identify animals they see within the scuba tank. They loved it!

There was an opportunity to use a mallet to crack open and eat Jonah Crabs.

Every 15-20 minutes there was a presentation – lecture – on everything from sharks to lobsters – presented by the DMF experts – adults loved it!

The MLA was the only (I think) non-DMF booth in attendance. Our information went quickly with the public. The kids all did well on banding – possible future stern help.

*Dave Casoni,
Captain PR for the MLA*



PROJECT FACT SHEET FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

Supporting Fisheries Access in the Gulf of Maine through Scenario-testing and Visual Simulations of Floating Offshore Wind and Fishing Operations



Photo credit: United States Maritime Resource Center

Applicant: Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI)

Lead Project Manager/Principal Investigators: Hannah MacDonald, Senior Program Manager – Energy Solutions (Offshore Wind + Fisheries), GMRI; Aaron Whitman, Senior Research Associate, GMRI

Project Objectives: This project seeks to support the coexistence of fishing operations and floating offshore wind developments in the Gulf of Maine. It aims to identify and address key operational challenges by simulating various floating offshore wind mooring designs (e.g., catenary, taut, tension leg platforms) and diverse fishing gear types (e.g. trawl, gillnet, longline, lobster pots, purse seine) at the United States Maritime Resource Center (USMRC) maritime simulation center. By conducting two virtual simulation workshops, fishing industry experts will virtually operate and navigate with floating offshore wind areas to identify barriers, and propose solutions for improving access and safety in wind leases in the Gulf of Maine. The project is designed to enable fishermen to visualize and experience their fishing operation in a floating offshore wind environment so they can understand and identify the barriers and propose solutions for layout configurations, spacing strategies, and fishing gear modifications.

Methods: The first phase of the project is initial simulations and baseline testing to document challenges within current wind array designs. The second phase of the project is focused on scenario refinement and testing of innovative solutions based on fishermen's feedback from the first workshop. GMRI will use the STAR (Situation, Task, Action, and Result) method during and after simulation exercises to help participants articulate their thought processes, generating qualitative data on decision-making, risk perception, and adaptive strategies while structuring reflections to provide insights into risk assessment, decision-making, and operational adaptations.

Year 1 (Months 1-8): Simulation preparatory work, fishermen engagement, and baseline simulations followed by the first workshop.

Year 2 (Months 9-24): Scenario refinement, testing, and validation of new solutions through a second workshop and regional engagement.

Expected Impact: The project aims to produce actionable and realistic recommendations for array design and layout that will enhance fishing access within offshore wind developments. These efforts are expected to lead to increased safety and improved operational feasibility for fishermen working in and around floating offshore wind arrays. By engaging fishermen in a collaborative, simulation-based process, the project will foster stronger trust and cooperation between the fishing and offshore wind industries. Furthermore, the project will develop scalable best practices and practical tools that can guide future offshore wind projects along the East Coast, promoting sustainable and mutually beneficial coexistence between these critical ocean-based industries.

Major Participants: United States Maritime Resource Center (USMRC)

Fishermen of diverse gear types (lobster traps, bottom trawl, jigging, gillnet, longline)



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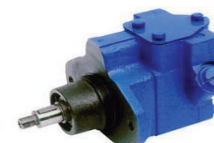
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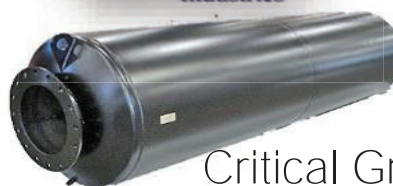
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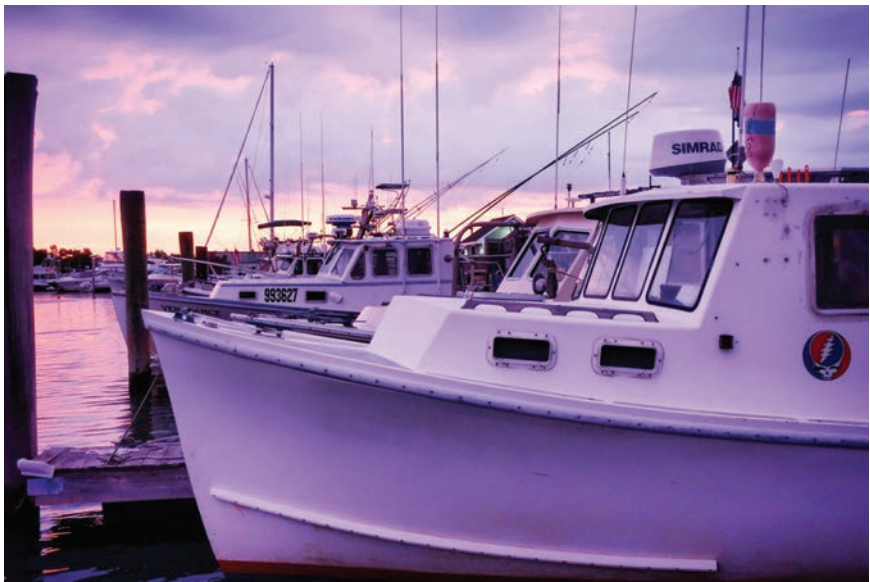


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www.lobstermen.com



Brant Rock

FROM PAGE 1

tions between the Massachusetts South Shore and Mid-coast Maine.”

Staples-Bortner also remembers the long summer voyages they’d take as a family aboard the lobster boat. They travelled through the Cape Cod Canal to Buzzards Bay and the Elizabeth Islands, camping aboard the boat and swinging from yacht moorings in their working vessel.

“We’d go every summer,” she said. “And it was always just us, the lobster boat, and surrounded by all these yachts.”

CLOSE-KNIT COMMUNITY

Those years spent bouncing between the working world and the water left a lasting mark that would come full circle decades later, as Staples-Bortner began connecting with others in the small, tight-knit fishing community.

“I started following people on Instagram, just trying to get a better feel for today’s fishing world,” she said. “There’s one woman I follow, That Salty Blonde. She’s taking on more than just lobstering. She’ll catch green crabs to sell and discuss bycatch and biology on her page. It’s a totally different take on what it means to be a fisherman today, and I give her so much credit for that.”

It’s a much different world her father entered as a boy with ten pots and a handmade gaff, or even the era when he rebuilt an old launch into a lobster boat after returning from Korea. But the underlying spirit remains to work hard, help others, and take pride in the boat and gear you run.

“My father always kept a clean boat,” she said. “He followed every regulation, worked a full day, and gave back to the community. And he danced! He was a phenomenal ballroom dancer. You wouldn’t picture it, but he had this whole life outside of fishing.”

For Staples-Bortner and her family, the book is a tribute to that life,



Finest Kind: Tales of a Brant Rock Lobsterman, written by Sandra Staples-Bortner

but it’s also a way to hold onto something larger. Something that, in a time of shifting regulations, coastal gentrification, and environmental uncertainty, feels increasingly fragile.

“There’s so much change in the fishing world today,” she said. “But the community is still there, still strong. My hope is that people read *Finest Kind* and feel connected to that history, not just the past, but to each other.”

She’ll be visiting Maine for a book signing at Sherman’s in Portland on September 13 and says she’s looking forward to reconnecting with the state and meeting readers who may recognize their own fathers, uncles, or grandfathers in her stories.

“There’s nothing I’d love more than to sit around and swap fishing stories,” she said with a smile. “That’s what my dad would’ve wanted, just to be remembered, and to keep those connections alive.”

For those of us who grew up to the hum of an engine and the loud crackle of the VHF radio, that’s not just storytelling, that’s legacy.

Finest Kind: Tales of a Brant Rock Lobsterman is available at your local bookstore or any online bookseller. Find a link to a few options at www.SandraStaplesBortner.com. Follow Sandra on Instagram at [sandra.staples.bortner](https://www.instagram.com/sandra.staples.bortner).



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Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation

A nonprofit organization working to support a healthy lobster fishery and sustainable resources in the Gulf of Maine. Lobster Lines is our tri-annual newsletter presenting our projects, programs and partners during this time. We thank you for your ongoing support of GOMLF and our programs.

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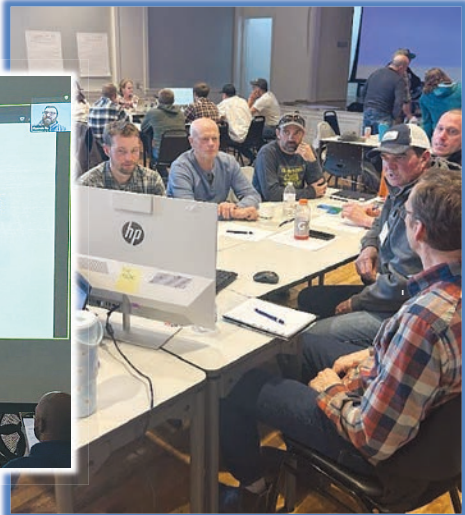
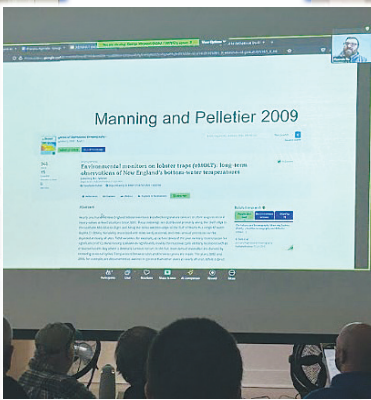
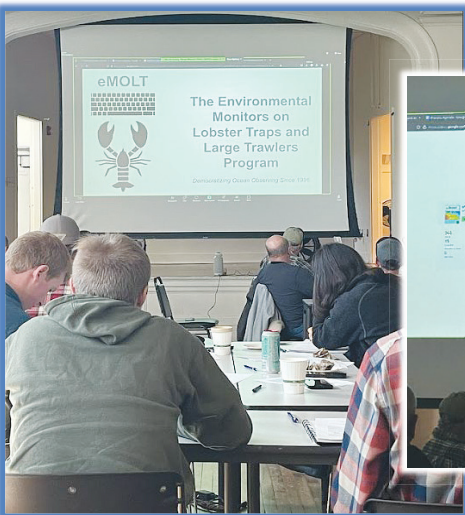
ISSUE 8

GOMLF NEWSLETTER
Spring 2025

e-MOLT Conference in Ellsworth



On April 17, 2025 a monumental eMOLT Workshop was hosted in Ellsworth. This conference gathered with the purpose of bringing fishermen together to help inform data visualization tools and needs across the coast. NERACOOS was a fundamental partner and key organizer that made this event happen. We were grateful to be funded by the Maine Sea Grant. Organizations including The Lobster Institute, Ocean Data Network (ODN), Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries and Maine Department of Marine Resources were also in the room supporting the voice of fishermen. This conference assisted with promoting how fishery needs and industry-independent data can be utilized in collaboration.



PARTNERSHIPS

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What Can I do to get involved?

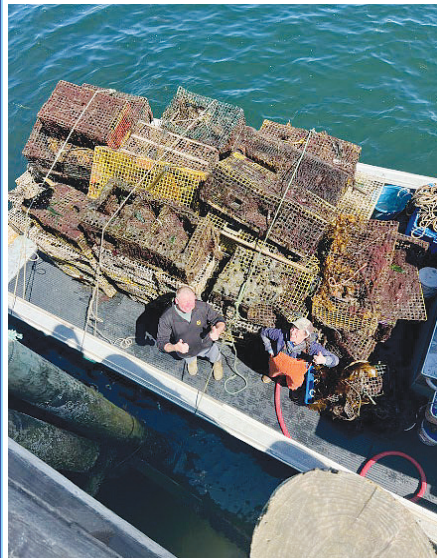
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Spring Removal Initiatives: Trap Grappling and Gear Balls



We have been busy this spring in the realm of marine debris recovery. We executed 5 on-the-water extraction days with the cooperation of 5 vessels and 12 fishermen (Captains and crew). Trap grappling occurred out of Cundy's Harbor and Harpswell. We landed these traps at the Portland Fish Exchange (PFEX) where they were processed for recycling and disposal. Two gear balls were recovered off Portland Harbor and landed at PFEX.

- 2 large (> 2 tons) gear balls
- 1 wench returned to wharf owner (Phippsburg) lost during 2024 storms
- 35 Fishable traps returned to owners
- 168 Traps recovered
- 3 mini (< 2 tons) gear balls
- 9 legal lobsters returned to be caught
- 60+ undersized lobsters returned
- 1 oversized egger notched thrown back
- 1 shrimp pot

Debris Total: 6.61 Tons

GGGI Best Practices for the Management of Fishing Gear Conference in Vancouver, BC, Canada



GOMLF Gear Grab team led by our Executive Director Erin Pelletier and fishermen Jim Buxton, Jim Barclay and Bob Hersey represented the US at the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) Best Practices for the Management of Fishing Gear workshop in Vancouver, BC. Erin presented to attendees from Mexico and Canada on our gear recovery work in Maine. Thank you to GGGI for hosting. Phenomenal presentation given by Erin Pelletier inspired international dialogue.



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Voluntary Gear Disposal Event: Portland



On May 5th, 6th, and 7th we hosted a Voluntary Derelict Gear Disposal Day off the Portland Fish Exchange. We were honored to receive traps and gear from Portland, Chebeague Island, Harpswell and Boothbay!

Salvage:

- approximately 100 traps/wire for reuse by local fishermen or makers.
- Rope salvaged for reuse and artistry by folks at WharfWarp in Freeport
- 1 full palette of bricks repurposed by local fishermen, gardeners and landscapers

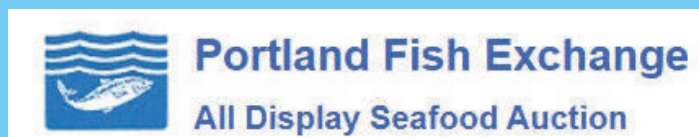
Recycled:

- 5.12 tons of traps and metal fishing wire recycled

Disposal for energy:

- 2.91 tons of unsalvageable debris sent to be turned into energy

GOMLF Appreciation: Portland Fish Exchange (PFEX) and Look Lobster



We are grateful for all the support and resources from the Portland Fish Exchange (PFEX) and Look Lobster in Portland for their engagement with our initiatives, shared space on the waterfront and the time taken to help make these projects a reality in the Portland area.

Gear Team and Gear Grab: Successful Partnerships, Broad Reaching Success

Our Gear Team is comprised of 6 New England organizations including GOMLF, Center for Coastal Studies, The Rozalia Project, Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation, Oceanswide and Net Your Problem. Our partnership has enabled us to develop efficient mechanisms of collection, recycling and outreach. We have continued to provide community contacts and on the ground support for our partners. Our New England Gear Team Gear Extraction and Response Team is the first of its kind and doing work along the coast to bolster our collective engagement and results!

Student Drifters Updates

Drifter Tracks Ended: One of the SMCC “Brian” drifters with plywood sails landed on the rocks just south of Kennbunkport on May 4th, was recovered, and is being refurbished.

Drifters Underway: The other SMCC “Brian” drifter, deployed back in April, was headed to Georges Bank, but, in the last few days, appears to be tracking more northward towards Nova Scotia. After being deployed mid-March and taking several oscillations in an eddy, the Canterbury School of Florida drifter has finally made its way into the Florida Straits just south of Key West and may soon be headed north.

Drifters Planned: NOAA’s Great Lakes Environmental Research Lab has 5 units ready to go into Lake Michigan. Three units delivered to NOAA’s NEFSC who will be tracking bluefin tuna larvae in July. Salem Sound Coast Watch (SSCW) plans one off the North Shore this Summer.

Thank you to our Funders

As a nonprofit we are entirely funded by grants and donations. We are grateful to continue to receive funds from our following partners. Their support allows us to continue to perform our work.



Additional Events Attended

- Massachusetts Fishermen’s Weekend
- Sustainable Seafood Showcase at the Seafood Expo in Boston
- Maine Fisherman’s Forum
- Downeast On-Demand Gear Demos

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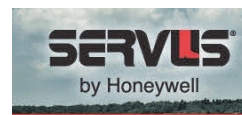
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Permit Holder Information
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Permit #:
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Phone #:
How many additional tags are your requesting?
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AD#3 (5/25) **FOR SALE** – 1979 JC Lobster Boat. 320 Turbo Cat Diesel. Federally Documented, Fiberglass Hull (Blue), 28.2 ft long, 11 ft wide. Being sold “As Is”. On land in Scituate, MA. Asking \$10,000. All offers presented. Contact: Christopher N. Carroll | 617-471-8448 | Squantolaw@verizon.net

AD#4 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – Turnkey O.C. Lobster Business.1981 31' BHM Volvo 63P–370 HP. OC State permit w/270 tags+10%, endorsements, 400+ traps, fisheries gear, trailers, cooler. \$200,000 or BRO. Steve: 978-257-1062

AD#5 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – 1980 Bob Rich 40' wooden lobster boat. Detroit 471 diesel. MA Area 1 and Federal Area 1 permits w/ endorsements. 800 traps + equipment. \$65,000 firm. Bill: 781-834-7418

AD#6 (3/25) **FOR SALE** – 28.2 ft 1976 JC fiberglass hull, Cat 3208, 265HP. Area 1 permit, 800 traps, 700 3ft lobster traps w/ gear. Joe: 978-239-5927

AD#7 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – OCLMA permit for 645 tags. Serious inquiries only. 774-313-6287 – joneSeven@aol.com

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AD#12 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – 2021 Eaton Boat Shop 25' custom boat. 200 Yamaha, under 55 hrs. Trailer included. Loaded electronics. Preston: 603-235-5397 | di42na@gmail.com

AD#13 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – 500 36" traps, rope, buoys, gear, bait bags. Full setup. Kevin: 508-951-6400

AD#14 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – Area 1 Commercial Lobster Permit – 800 trap allocation. \$20,000. Text Mike: 781-854-6522 / Call: 781-665-5318 (no calls after 6PM)

AD#15 (2/25) **FOR SALE** – Lobster/Fishing bait. Pogies, lightly iced and salted. 60¢/lb. Free delivery in CT. Kory: 203-824-8247

AD#16 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – 150 conch trawl wire pots. \$40.00 each. Call: 508-889-9180

AD#17 PLACE YOUR AD HERE

AD#18 (4/25) **ATLANTIC TRAP** – Traps & Fishing Supplies: Lobster, Crab, Eel, Scup, Conch, Sea Bass. Trap kits, heads, trays. Text/Call Ryan: 508-762-2880

AD#19 (2/25) **FOR SALE** – Area 1 Federal Lobster Permit (800 trap limit). \$23,000. Text/Call Ed: 781-534-3794 (before 7PM)

AD#20 (2/25) **FOR SALE** – 40 Danny Cement Conch Pots, rigged. \$30 each or B.O. 508-367-0757

AD#21 (4/25) **FOR SALE** – 600 4ft Brooks/Friendship Aquamesh traps \$100 ea. 158 new traps \$140 ea. Lines, buoys, trap sticks, alu-

minum pulpit/flying bridge, more. Call: 401-782-5118

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AD#23 (5/25) **FOR SALE** – 80 new 3ft yellow traps, shrimp mesh, reinforced corners, bumpers. \$100 each. Call: 351-231-2069

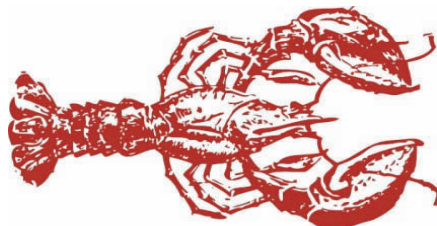
AD#24 (5/25) **FOR SALE** – 1989 Privateer Renegade 24.5 ft w/ trailer. New Mercury 350, 7.5 hrs. Full electronics, traps, rope, gear. Dan: 508-367-5240

AD#25 (5/25) **FOR SALE** – 45' Lobster Boat (Fiberglass/Wood). Detroit 8-71. Excellent condition. \$75,000. Fred: 774-930-0499

AD#26 (5/25) **FOR SALE** – 1999 Webber Cove 26ft. Volvo 260HP diesel, electronics, hauler, finished interior. \$73,000. Paul: 617-590-0404

AD#27 (6/25) **FOR SALE** – 22' Siso Lobster Boat w/ 150hp Evinrude. Needs work. Bunk trailer included. \$8,000 or B.O. Robert: 617-846-3714 (home) / 617-650-3842 (cell)

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