

# Island Ad-Vantages

## THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

**September 19, 2019 – What are these purple blobs I’ve been seeing on the beach this year?** The red or purple gelatinous blobs that have been common on the beaches and rocks are Lion’s Mane jellyfish (*Cyanea capillata*). This is one of a few species of jellyfish that can be found in Maine waters including Moon Jellys and White Cross Jellys. They are normal to see, but occasionally large “blooms” take place, making them a nuisance. This year people have observed that more of the jellys are Lion’s Mane. There are many factors that trigger blooms including currents, temperatures and food. Small jellyfish eat phytoplankton and zooplankton and larger ones can eat small fish and crustaceans. The Lion’s Mane can be as large as 5 feet in diameter, and their long, stinging tentacles can stretch 100 feet. Those stinging tentacles are intended to disable prey, but they can hurt humans too. Even the tentacles of a dead one on the beach can sting, so it’s advised to leave them alone.

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to [info@coastalfisheries.org](mailto:info@coastalfisheries.org) or call 367-2708.

### FISHERIES LOG

Lobsters: \$5.50/lb.

Clams: \$3.00/lb.

Bait (herring): \$82/bu.

Fuel (diesel): \$2.55/gal.

### Oceanographic Buoy I-01\*

44°6’10”N 68°6’44”W - Frenchboro

Sea surface temperature: 55°F

SST - Long term average: 54°F

Bottom temperature: 52°F

BT - Long term average: 51° F