

# Island Ad-Vantages

## THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

**January 16, 2020 – What is the status of the creation of a new apprenticeship program for the scallop fishery?** Last year the State Legislature passed a bill indicating that the Department of Marine resources “may” develop an apprenticeship program for new and returning entrants to the scallop fishery. Although the state legislature implemented a scallop lottery for awarding new dive and drag licenses based on the number of licenses not renewed in each year, this apprenticeship program would create an opportunity to make sure fishermen getting into the drag fishery will better understand the specifics of drag fishing operations and be safer on the water. The Scallop Advisory Council has this item on their agenda for meetings this winter and spring and aim to have a draft apprenticeship program design for review in this fall that will specify requirements for apprentices and sponsors that would ensure new license holders acquire knowledge and practice of safe scallop dragging operations. Staff at MCCF will be part of these discussions at the Scallop Advisory Council. If endorsed, DMR can advance the apprenticeship through rule making.

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to [info@coastalfisheries.org](mailto:info@coastalfisheries.org) or call 367-2708. Learn more about MCCF by visiting us online at [www.coastalfisheries.org](http://www.coastalfisheries.org).

### FISHERIES LOG

#### Prices to Harvesters in Stonington

Lobsters (shedder select): \$5.95/lb.

Scallops: \$10.00/lb.

Bait (frozen Pogies): \$28/box

Fuel (diesel): \$2.75/gal.

#### Oceanographic Buoy I-01\*

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W - Frenchboro

Sea surface temperature: 43°F

SST - Long term average: 43°F

Bottom temperature: 43°F

BT - Long term average: 43° F