

# Island Ad-Vantages

## THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

**February 13, 2020** – The Department of Marine Resources recently closed a large area to the west of Deer Isle to scallop harvesting. This is part of the management strategy for scallops and is in response to harvest effort and signals that the remaining scallop populations in this area are low enough to cease harvest for the remainder of the season. The information that DMR uses to make these decisions comes from several sources. In January, department personnel conducted two surveys indicating reduced biomass. They also rely on observations from the Marine Patrol that monitors fishing effort, how quickly boats catch their daily limit, and the meat count (size) of the scallops that are landed. Fishermen can also provide information to the department when they feel an area has been fished hard and warrants closure. This kind of approach to fisheries management assumes that if enough adult animals are left on the bottom, they will reproduce and help with the propagation of populations to harvest in the future. In addition to these types of in-season closures, all scallop harvest areas are subject to rotational closures and are open every third year. Maps of this new closed area are available at the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries office in Stonington and they are also available on the DMR's web site.

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): \$5.50/lb.

Scallops: \$9.25/lb.

Bait (frozen Pogies): \$28/box

Fuel (diesel): \$2.75/gal.

#### Oceanographic Buoy I-01\*

The NERACOOS portal is not currently providing data.