

Island Ad-Vantages

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

March 26, 2020 – Clearly the COVID-19 situation is having dramatic impacts on all of us in many ways. At MCCF we are gearing up with some ideas to help fishermen and others in our coastal communities to understand and access programs that might provide some level of relief either through small business loans, expanded unemployment policies, or directed disaster-relief support from the federal government. Anyone near a computer these days is probably feeling overwhelmed with all of the information, much of it convoluted and contradictory. As we navigate this information, we'll be reaching out to fishermen and others to find ways that are helpful. One thing you can do right now that can't hurt is to eat local seafood. Traditional markets and distribution channels have diminished and prices are down for the fishermen regardless of species. But you may be able to find some locally caught seafood and get a good price while helping local harvesters to put a few bucks in their pockets. There's not a lot of lobster fishing going on right now, but there are some harvesters pulling traps and some product available. Scallop fishing will close next week, but you may still be able to find some, either direct from fishermen you know, or through other outlets. Coldwater Seafood, in Stonington is accepting orders for a variety of seafood with curbside pick-up available. You can call them to place your order at 348-3084. There are other outlets you can contact too. We are resilient people in this part of the world and we will get through this, but it's important that we look out for each other. Contact us if we can help you. We may not know all the answers, but we probably know someone who does.

If you are interested in learning more about these programs, give us a call.

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to info@coastalfisheries.org or call 367-2708. Learn more about MCCF by visiting us online at www.coastalfisheries.org.

FISHERIES LOG

Prices to Harvesters in Stonington

Lobsters (select): N/A

Scallops: \$8.00/per lb.

Bait (frozen Pogies): N/A

Fuel (diesel): \$2.75/gal.

Oceanographic Buoy I-01*

Surface Water Temperature: 39°F