

Island Ad-Vantages

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

November 19, 2020 – Maine’s lobster industry took a step towards improved trade with countries in the European Union recently when the European Parliament’s trade committee voted to support an agreement to eliminate trade tariffs on live and frozen American lobsters. Once fully ratified by the full Parliament, this will be a welcome relief for the many processors and distributors of Maine Lobster and will help to maintain strong prices for fishermen. In recent years, American lobster has been subject to up to 30% tariffs when importing to the EU. In 2017, an agreement between Canada and the European Union reduced tariffs for Canadian imports, putting the US exporters at a serious disadvantage. Once enacted, this new agreement will be retroactive to August 1, 2020 and may become permanent.

While you’re thinking about lobster and contemplating families across Europe once again enjoying this wonderful food, perhaps you should consider fresh, local caught lobster for your dinner table over the coming holidays. Sure, turkey is traditional for Thanksgiving, but maybe there’s room to mix things up and include lobster on the menu, or treat you and your family to a lobster bake on the Friday after Thanksgiving. Turn Black Friday into “Lobster Friday!”

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to info@coastalfisheries.org or call 207.367.2708. Learn more about MCCF by visiting us online at www.coastalfisheries.org.

FISHERIES LOG

Prices to Harvesters in Stonington

Lobsters (shedders): \$4.05/lb.

Bait (herring): \$82/bu.

Fuel (diesel): \$2.09/gal.