

Island Ad-Vantages

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

November 4, 2021 – Back in January of 2021 the Young Fisherman’s Development Act (YFDA) was signed into law. This legislation has been pending in the US Congress for several years and it finally received the congressional support needed to get passed. The Act authorizes the National Sea Grant Program to deploy funding that will support the development of educational programs for young fishermen across the country. For the purposes of this act, a “young” fishermen is any high school student fisherman, or any new entrant or someone with less than 10 years of experience in the fisheries or aquaculture sector.

Tom Duym, Collaborative Education Specialist at MCCF and I will be participating in a planning effort over the next 6 months that is being coordinated by the Maine Sea Grant Program to conduct a needs assessment and inventory of education and training for fishermen, aquaculturists and other parts of the seafood economy in Maine. The findings from this assessment will help to inform a future call for proposals to access the funding that the YFDA will provide. The authorization allows for up to \$2M per year under this national program, but the congress must appropriate those funds each year.

Readers may know about the Eastern Maine Skippers Program that MCCF sponsors under Tom’s leadership. Our experience with this program over nearly 10 years has proven to us the importance of providing skill building opportunities for students that may end up working as fishermen or other vocations in the seafood economy. The ever-changing world we live in demands that we continue to learn and adapt and this program has the potential to continue and expand similar opportunities to help young fishermen to be safe and successful. If you’re interested in sharing your thoughts about the skills needs and training opportunities that could help young fishermen succeed, please let us know.

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 (select): \$6.55/lb.

Lobsters (shedder): \$5.55/lb.

Bait (pogies): \$65/bu.

Fuel (diesel): \$3.05/gal.

Oceanographic Buoy I-01

44°6’10”N 68°6’44”W – Frenchboro

Sea Surface Temperature: 55.5°F (avg. for this date: 51.5°F)

Bottom Temperature: 55.2°F (avg. for this date: 51.2°F)

Source: www.neracoos.org