

Island Ad-Vantages

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

June 9, 2022: For the past several months, I've been participating in the SEAMaine program, or the Seafood Economic Accelerator for Maine. It's an industry-led initiative bringing together leaders in Maine's commercial fishing, aquaculture, and seafood economy charged with developing a roadmap and action plan for economic growth, market and workforce development, and greater resiliency in Maine's seafood economy. Funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA), this program is similar to the FORMaine program from a few years ago that is now resulting in new investments related to the forest products industry in Maine.

The SEAMaine program has four working groups: Data & Benchmarking (which I chair), Workforce and Talent Development, Market Development, and New Opportunities and Emerging Technologies. The industry co-chairs are Curt Brown (Ready Seafood) and Sara Rademaker (American Unagi), and the committees include people from various industry sectors, industry associations, state government, and academic institutions. Two million dollars in EDA funding was awarded to support this program with most of these funds being used for contracted studies to collect a wide spectrum of information, and to synthesize the findings into a roadmap for the future of Maine's seafood economy.

Some of the program's goals include providing support to sustain Maine's existing marine resource businesses by growing and diversifying markets for Maine seafood, supporting the needs of today and the future of workforce in Maine's marine economy, and strengthening Maine's coastal communities through the preservation and improvements of our working waterfronts. The program will be completed in the summer of 2023. If you want to learn more about SEAMaine, you can visit their website at www.seamaine.org.

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 (shedder): \$4.30/lb.

Bait (frzn. redfish heads): \$37.50/50lbs.

Fuel (diesel): \$4.99/gal.

Oceanographic Buoy 1-01

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W - Frenchboro

Sea Surface Temperature: N/A

Bottom Temperature: 45.3°F (avg. for this date: 43.1°F)

Source: www.neracoos.org