

Island  **THE WEEKLY  
Ad-Vantages PACKET**

**THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE**

BY DR. CARLA GUENTHER, CHIEF SCIENTIST, MCCF

**July 14, 2022:** On June 28<sup>th</sup> I lost a mentor, the field of Anthropology lost a significant contributor to human organizational theory, and Maine's lobster fishery lost the man who put it on the world stage. In his 1988 book entitled, *The Lobster Gangs of Maine*, Jim Acheson wrote of the complex social rules established and navigated by members of the fishery to manage the common pool resource of lobsters. His detailed account inspired many economists, anthropologists, and natural resource scientists- including the first female Nobel Laureate in Economics, Elinor Ostrom.

Last Friday, one of Jim's daughters eulogized her father with comments about his steadfast commitment to a lifetime of learning and teaching, demonstrated in his over 50 years of research, and celebrated his unwavering support of the underdog. It strikes me that on the day of D.C. District Court Judge Boasberg's ruling on the North Atlantic Right Whale case in which the lobster fishery could be considered an underdog, Acheson's work indirectly prevented an injunction to halt fishing. While NOAA was found to be in violation of the Endangered Species Act, Judge Boasberg ruled that the Court would not prescribe a remedy, instead offering the parties an opportunity to articulate alternatives for his selection. This is, in my opinion, a nod to the long history of collaborative discourse and effective management of the lobster resource documented and studied by Acheson, and an invitation to take these skills to the next level toward broader ecosystem management.

Do you have a question about our fisheries? Send it to [info@coastalfisheries.org](mailto:info@coastalfisheries.org) or call 207.367.2708. 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): \$3.50/lb.

Bait (fresh pogies): \$125/crt.

Fuel (diesel): \$5.29/gal.

Oceanographic Buoy 1-01

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W - Frenchboro

Sea Surface Temperature: N/A

Bottom Temperature: 48.6°F (avg. for this date: 46.3°F)

Source: [www.neracoos.org](http://www.neracoos.org)