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Island Ad-Vantages

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE BY PAT SHEPARD, COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SPECIALIST, MCCF

July 7, 2022: Boat racing dates back to the schooner and dory days, when vessels would sail out to Georges and Grand Banks and fish for cod. Once the holds were loaded with fish, the schooners would race home to hit the markets before they flooded with product and the price dropped. The faster the schooner, the better the crew, the quicker the return home and the more the captain and crew would get paid. Schooner crews that consistently beat the fleet home would earn the title of "Highliner" - bragging rights mostly, with the fat wallet to match.

Fast forward to 2022, not much has changed in the bragging rights arena but we mostly do it for fun. Lobster boats from all over the coast participate in a circuit of races from Jonesport to Portland. Stonington's host date is typically the Sunday after the 4th. Visitors in town can expect to see a buzz of activity Saturday night and Sunday morning, and stores will be running low on ice and propane, among other provisions. If you're planning on kayaking or sailing this weekend, steer clear of the thorofare - unless your idea of a good time is playing chicken with a line 40' lobster boats on a ¼ mile drag strip headed at you at 30 knots. Even though racing was born from sail and oar, the safest place to watch today would be on the shore at Greenhead, up on Church Street, or if you're lucky enough - on a lobster boat. Have fun this weekend, and be safe out there.

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

FISHERIES LOG

Prices to Harvesters in Stonington Lobsters (shedder): \$4.00/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: 48.7°F (avg. for this date: 45.7°F)

Source: www.neracoos.org