September 1, 2022: August was a busy month for the Eastern Maine Skippers Program (EMSP), a collaborative education program of Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries (MCCF). Last month we held our annual teacher workshop where we discussed the program’s core content and potential projects, which include northern shrimp sampling in collaboration with Downeast Institute, a closer look at the whelk fishery, and the ASMFC scallop spat dispersal study, in partnership with Hurricane Island, Bates College, and MCCF.

The teacher workshop also included development of a recovery plan for post-pandemic program promotion. Further reflection of how the COVID-pandemic affected students and participating high schools pointed out that an invigoration of information and recruiting was needed due to a disruption in scheduling and a high rate of turnover in teachers and administrative staff. This created an unintended loss of “institutional memory” around EMSP. This new effort will re-familiarize participating high schools with the program’s mission and purpose, which also includes returning to the collaborative cohort nature across the geographic region.

While reacquainting participating schools, we welcome Washington Academy (WA) located in East Machias as they take part in EMSP as part of their long-standing marine programming in Eastern Maine. Their involvement will bring in the Machiasport and Cutler communities as well as other surrounding fishing communities that send their students to WA. As we begin the school year, we hope to spark interest in other high school programs throughout Washington County. Better get the truck warmed up - looks like there will be some fun excursions downeast this fall!

We look forward to getting back to the business of creating a growing cohort of young fishermen as well as supportive interest and community involvement in the current challenges and future opportunities of coastal fishing communities in Eastern Maine.

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 (sheddler): $3.30/lb.
Bait (fresh pogies): $125/crt.

Oceanographic Buoy 1-01
44°6’10”N 68°6’44”W - Frenchboro
Sea Surface Temperature: N/A
Bottom Temperature (50 meters): 53.6°F (avg. for this date: 50.2°F)
*Source: [www.neracoos.org](http://www.neracoos.org)*