Listen to Other People
My two kiddos and I just recently added a new member to our family. A new kitten, and her name is Glinda. We spent all of Sunday building one of those tower things with lots of levels and carpet and other things that are supposed to be fun for cats, and since I am one of those DIY’ers, I thought this would be the perfect project to design and build with my two offspring.

What I soon realized is that designing and building a cat tower, is much like being part of any fishery in the world. Everyone has a brilliant idea on what it should look like, and what it should do, and how it should be created. The problem is that since we all have the “best” idea on how to do all of this, we spend very little time listening to others as they talk about catch limits or whale avoidance techniques, or about where the miniature hammock should swing and what it should be made out of.

So anyway, today’s column is a simple lesson that we all know, but needed to be reminded of sometimes... Whether you are a fisherman, a fisheries manager, a researcher, or one of my kids. Listen to other people. Try to understand their point of view. Empathize. Realize that their “great” idea is just as “great” as the one in your head. That we are all affected by the outcomes that we create and that the best way to create the best outcomes is to do it together. And above all, Glinda isn’t going to play with the damned thing anyway, and instead will have the most fun scratching your arms and the pillows of the nicest couch in the house. Stay safe and be nice everyone. The cat belongs to all of us and none of us at the same time.

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 at www.coastalfisheries.org.

FISHERIES LOG
Prices to Harvesters in Stonington
Lobsters (shedder): $3.75/lb.
Bait (fresh pogies): $81.50/bushel
Fuel (diesel): $5.60/gal.

Oceanographic Buoy I-01
44°6’10”N 68°6’44”W - Frenchboro
Sea Surface Temperature: N/A
Bottom Temperature (50 meters): 54.66°F (avg. for this date: 50.27°F)
Source: http://www.neracoos.org