

Island  **THE WEEKLY
Ad-Vantages PACKET**

THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE

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March 14, 2024

Aquaculture.... What do you think?

Unless you have been living under some rockweed, you know that aquaculture is expanding in the state of Maine, and it's safe to say that aquaculture will be a part of our coastline and our communities and our culture as we look to the future ahead of us. There are all kinds of aquaculture. There's scallops and seaweed and mussels and clams. Some of its shallow, some deep, and even some on land. There's mom and pop operations and there are corporate scales, and everything in between. And like anything else, there is "good" and there is "bad". What makes it good or bad, is of course very subjective, at least in our minds.

Maine and other coastal states are deep into the policy process of deciding as a whole, what is best for us. What do we want aquaculture to look like here? And even questions like "Should there be just one answer for the whole state?" or should these decisions be made regionally, based on ecological and/or socio economic factors. Or maybe something else. You're probably detecting a lot of open ended questions without any answers.

Well if you have any thoughts or questions bubbling in your head right now, you should attend one of the Maine DMR's listening sessions to hear input from stakeholders in your community. The session nearest us is in **Ellsworth** at the **Moore Community Theatre on March 21st, 4-6pm**. Written comments can also be submitted to DMR through March 28th. And if you don't know where to start in your own mind, start by talking to people who started before you. Fishermen are all around us, and DMR has an Aquaculture Web Map (Google it) that will show you all the leases and farmers around you. See you there!

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 (select): \$12.50/lb.
Lobster (hard): \$11.50/lb.
Bait (herring): \$90/box
Fuel (diesel): \$3.82/gal

Oceanographic Buoy I-01

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W – Frenchboro
Top Temperature (1 meter): 39.2°F 4°C
Bottom Temperature (50 meters): 39.38 °F 4.1°C
Source: www.neracoos.org