

**Island**  **Ad-Vantages** **THE WEEKLY**  
**PACKET**

**THE VIEW FROM ATLANTIC AVENUE**

**By: Carla Guenther**

September 19, 2024

**Baseball and Back to School**

As we slide into the autumnal equinox, we experience and celebrate traditions of seasonal transition. The Common Ground Fair, this coming weekend in Unity, celebrates Maine's organic harvest season. Students going back to school are now settling into the swing of their new schedules and layering in sports and other extracurriculars. We celebrated a dear friend's birthday this weekend in Portland taking in the second to last Sea Dogs game of the 2024 season. As the sun set over the players taking the field at 6 pm the air grew crisp and we all put on our sweatshirts. Just a few hours earlier the kids swam in the pool and picnicked in the sun. We were all soaking in the last of this weather before the inevitable wind and rain of October.

Over the past decade, the lobster fishery has become accustomed to an October pulse of lobsters that dwarfed the summer's catch and lasted into the New Year. Fall fishing has been a welcomed addition to coastal community seasonal transitions. It might have meant a few less folks were available to coach soccer or attend their kids' games, but it rounded out the year for our economies, bringing money when traps used to come ashore and boats were put "on the hard".

This year has been slow, and *not* steady. Statewide landings are following trends of cooler ocean temperature years such as '09, '15, and '19. In these years, catches were slow all summer, yet with the changing seasons, they picked up and brought everyone into the winter with enough to stash away until the spring. By this time next month we should have a better idea how 2024 will turn out, and I hope to be celebrating this newest tradition of seasonal transitions.

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 at [www.coastalfisheries.org](http://www.coastalfisheries.org).

**FISHERIES LOG**

**Prices to Harvesters in Stonington, as of 9/16/2024**

Lobster (hard): \$6.15/lb.  
Lobster (shedder) \$5.25/lb.  
Bait (pogies): \$90/box  
Fuel (diesel): \$3.15/gal

**Oceanographic Buoy I-01**

44°6'10"N 68°6'44"W – Frenchboro  
Top Temperature (1 meter): 54.07°F 12.26°C  
Bottom Temperature (50 meters): 50.81°F 10.45°C  
Source: [www.neracoos.org](http://www.neracoos.org)