

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2012

8:30 AM Pen Bay Room

Summit of Maine Municipal Shellfish Programs sponsored by the Maine Clammers Association

Agenda-

A) Redefining Municipal Law Enforcement

B) Pollution Abatement

C) Stock Enhancement and Diversification

Host: Annie Tselikis, Maine Fishermen's Forum

Moderator: Chad Coffin, Maine Clammers Assn.

Panel: Denis-Marc Nault, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources
Ace Simmons, Shellfish Resource Manager
Brian Beal, University of Maine at Machias
Becky Kolak, Kennebec Estuaries Land Trust
Ruth Indrick, Kennebec Estuaries Land Trust

1:00 pm Rockland & Rockport Rooms

How Do Whales get Entangled in Fishing Gear? Using Reverse Engineering to Understand Whale Entanglements

Little is known about how whales become entangled in fishing gear. Despite major efforts by the fishing industry, dozens of whales are observed entangled in fishing gear each year and numerous others have scars from encounters with gear. There are many clues available to help us better understand whale entanglement. The Consortium for Wildlife Bycatch Reduction held a reverse engineering workshop in 2011 that brought together a varied group of participants to review information from a series of entanglement cases in order to piece together the puzzle of how individual whales become entangled. Participants used the data and their own observations to formulate ideas about how whales might have encountered the gear and the reactions that led them to become entangled.

This workshop will provide participants an opportunity to conduct their own reverse engineering exercise. Using several of those case studies, workshop participants will review gear retrieved from entangled whales, discuss the cases and make their own assessment of how each whale may have become entangled based on the type of gear involved. A summary of the 2011 Reverse Engineering workshop participants' findings also will be presented.

If you are not able to attend this seminar, be sure to visit the Bycatch Consortium booth during the forum. Fishing gear retrieved from whales and case study summaries will be available at the booth. Fishermen are encouraged to visit the Consortium's booth to offer ideas about how these whales are getting entangled and what might be done to prevent future cases.

Host: Elliott Thomas, Maine Lobstermen's Association

Moderator: Patrice McCarron, Maine Lobstermen's Association

Panel: Tim Werner, Consortium for Wildlife Bycatch Reduction
Kate McClellan, Consortium for Wildlife Bycatch Reduction
John Higgins, National Marine Fisheries Service
Heather Tetreault, Maine Lobstermen's Association
Kristan Porter, Cutler, ME
Frank Gotwals, Stonington, ME

1:00 pm Camden Room

From Capture to Culture: Opportunities for the Sea Urchin Fishery in Maine

The panel members will discuss the status of the urchin fishery in Maine, and how aquaculture methods can add value to the fishery and provide fishermen with more flexibility and options. The keynote speaker is Dr. Gerry Mouzakitis of Gourmet Marine, a sea urchin aquaculture company based in Ireland. Gerry will present information on a commercial scale bulking system (the UrchinPlatter) developed by his company that allows sea urchins to be bulked at high densities with an efficient use of space and seaweed.

Host: Paul Anderson, Maine Sea Grant

Moderator: Steve Eddy, CCAR

Panel: Mick Devin, Darling Marine Center
Jim Wadsworth, CCAR
Dr. Larry Harris, UNH Biological Sciences
Pamelia Fraungruber, CCAR
Dr. Gerry Mouzakitis, Gourmet Marine (Ireland)

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2012

8:00 am Samoset Pool & Fitness Center

Water Survival Training: Water Safety and Emergency Egress Training

The Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program will once again provide water safety training at this year's Fishermen's Forum. In addition to life raft and immersion suit training we will also provide free inspections of your immersion suits. Bring your suit or try one of ours in the heated pool Friday and Saturday morning.

Host: Kevin Plowman, USCG SNNE

Panel: Gary Moores
Paul Smith-Valley
Dan Hieter

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9:00 am Pen Bay Room

Gulf of Maine Council's EcoSystem Indicator Partnership

Although billed as a panel our ESIP session will not be your average panel. Audience members and panelists will discuss how fisheries data should be made available and in what format for the Gulf of Maine. Participants in the discussion will have a direct effect on how the data for fisheries indicators are presented through the ESIP program.

Activities of ESIP center on convening regional practitioners in seven indicator areas: coastal development, contaminants, eutrophication, aquatic habitats, climate change, fisheries and aquaculture. ESIP is developing indicators for the Gulf of Maine and integrating regional data for a new Web-based reporting system for marine ecosystem monitoring.

Host: Mary Beth Tooley, Small Pelagic Group / O'Hara Corp.,

Moderator: Christine Tilburg, ESIP Program Manager

Panel: Carl Wilson, Maine Division of Marine Resources
Mike Fogarty, NOAA
Rick Wahle, University of Maine
Tom Shyka, NERACOOS

9:00 am Upstairs Fitness Center Room

Atlantic Herring Amendment 5 Public Hearing

The New England Fisheries Management Council has been developing Amendment 5 over the last several years. The document is now ready for public comment before the Council makes its final decisions with implementation due in 2013. Issues to comment on include a comprehensive monitoring program, measures to address mid-water trawl vessel access to groundfish closed areas and measures to address river herring bycatch.

Host: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources
Mary Beth Tooley, Small Pelagic Group / O'Hara Corp.,

Moderator: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Panel: Lori Steele, New England Fisheries Management Council

9:00 am Rockland Room

The Seaweed Fishery of Maine

This session will highlight the seaweed fishery in Maine including the commercial uses of the various species, harvesting methods, benefits to the users of the products, and the benefits to Maine's fishing economy.

Topics and Speakers:

Rockweed - Bob Morse, Atlantic Laboratories

Sea Vegetables - Larch Hanson,, Maine Seaweed Company

New Approaches - Tollef Olson, Ocean Approved

Science - Brian Beal, University of Maine Machias

Panel discussion with speakers including Sarah Redmond, Maine Sea Grant

Host: Paul Anderson, Maine Sea Grant

Moderator: Chris Bartlett, Maine Sea Grant

Panel: Bob Morse, Atlantic Laboratories
Larch Hanson, Maine Seaweed Company
Tollef Olson, Ocean Approved
Brian Beal, University of Maine at Machias
Sarah Redmond, Maine Sea Grant

9:00 am Rockport Room

Maine Lobstermen's Association Annual Meeting

The Maine Lobstermen's Association announces our 58th Annual Meeting. All MLA members, family and the public are invited to attend. Incoming DMR Commissioner Patrick Keliher has been invited to address the MLA as our keynote speaker. Our Annual Meeting agenda will feature an update on new federal safety regulations from the US Coast Guard, proposed changes to the whale rules and an opportunity for questions and answers with MLA's legal team from Hogan Lovells. MLA will hold its annual election to vote on nominations to the Board. As always, there will be a free membership raffle for 2011 V-notch survey participants and door prizes for our members. Hope to see you there!

Host: Elliott Thomas, Maine Lobstermen's Association

Moderator: Patrice McCarron, Maine Lobstermen's Association

Panel: Clayton Howard, Howard & Bowie
Patrick Keliher, Commissioner, Maine Dept. of
Marine Resources
Kate Swails, Marine Mammal Policy Analyst,
National Marine Fisheries Service (Gloucester office)
Kevin Plowman, US Coast Guard
Mary Anne Mason, DLA Piper, Washington DC

10:30 am Pen Bay Room

First Aid Preparedness for Fish-Bone Poisoning and Other Nasty Infections on the Boat

This presentation will focus on techniques to follow to prevent fish-bone poisoning and other infections lobster/fishermen are at risk for when working on the boat. It will also provide advice in the event of a suspected infection, and raise awareness about signs and symptoms requiring immediate treatment or medical care. The presentation will focus on case-based examples as well as some instruction, but will also be open to discussion and questions.

Host: Rick Albertson, Ridley's Landing Inc.

Moderator: Evangeline Thibodeau, MD, Infectious Disease Fellow,
Tufts Medical Center

10:30 am Rockland and Rockport Rooms

Meet the New DMR Commissioner

Maine Governor Paul LePage will introduce his acting Marine Resources Commissioner Pat Keliher. Mr. Keliher will discuss current Department priorities and initiatives, and take your questions.

Host: Hank Soule, Sustainable Harvest Sector

Moderator: Hank Soule, Sustainable Harvest Sector

Panel: Pat Keliher, Commissioner, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

1:00 pm Pen Bay Room

Stepping Up Co-Management in Tight Times

Can marine resource co-management address the organizational and financial concerns of the DMR and state government? Political science and organizational theory find decentralized decision-making power can be cost effective and better still, yield sustainable use of natural resources. What does this mean for Maine? In a discussion format we will review ideas or concepts of what co-management means and how it could achieve goals of fiscal efficiency and resource sustainability. Attending fishermen, managers, and scientists will review their experience with co-management in Maine and

from there we will also discuss ways each sector could improve upon their current roles and responsibilities, including information from other co-management systems, toward achieving better outcomes.

Host: Paul Anderson, Maine Sea Grant
Moderator: Ron Beard, Cooperative Extension
Panel: Sarah Cotnoir, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources
Carla Guenther, Penobscot East Resource Center
Jim Wilson, Univ. of Maine School of Marine Sciences
Jimmy Ackley, Scallop Advisory Council
Justin Boyce, Zone C Council Secretary
Kathleen Billings-Pezaris, Stonington Town Office

1:00 pm Upstairs Fitness Center Room

How Smart Marketing Can Help Your Bottom Line

An introduction to “ROI” or Return on Investment Marketing. How much does good marketing cost? How do I know when I’m getting my money’s worth? Answers to these and other questions will be discussed and examples given of simple, proven ways to evaluate marketing spending.

Host: Sheila Dassatt, Downeast Lobstermen’s Assn.
Moderator: Dane Somers, Maine Lobster Promotion Council
Panel: Marianne La Croix, Maine Lobster Promotion Council
Chad Dorr, Dorr Lobster Company

1:00 pm Rockland Room & Rockport Rooms

Changes in NOAA Fisheries Leadership

Over the past year, there have been several changes in key leadership positions in NOAA Fisheries, including the Northeast Regional Office, the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, the Office of Law Enforcement, and the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries. Join us to learn more about the individuals hired to fill these positions and/or to be updated on the status of where the Agency stands with respect to filling these important positions.

Host: Maggie Raymond, Associated Fisheries of Maine
Moderator: Maggie Raymond, Associated Fisheries of Maine
Panel: Samuel Rauch, Acting Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS
Logan Gregory, Office of Law Enforcement, NOAA
Dan Morris, Acting Regional Administrator,
Northeast Regional Office, NOAA
Bill Karp, Acting Director,
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Bruce Buckson, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement

2:45 pm Pen Bay Room

Meet and Greet with the Maine Marine Resources Committee

This will be an informal meet and greet with members of the Marine Resources Legislative Committee. There will be a short list of questions for the members. The intention is to feel more comfortable with the members and to understand how to be more effective testifying at a public hearing.

Host: Jennie Bichrest, Purse Line Bait
Moderator: Jennie Bichrest, Purse Line Bait
Panel: Senator Lois Snowe-Mello, Chair
Representative Windol Weaver, Chair
Senator Brian Langley
Senator Nancy Sullivan
Representative Dianne Tilton
Representative Jane Knapp
Representative Kimberly Olsen
Representative Wayne Parry
Representative Bruce MacDonald

Representative Chuck Kruger
Representative Devin Beliveau
Representative Ralph Chapman
Representative Walter Kumiega

2:45 pm Upstairs Fitness Center Room

Should I Go To Sea Tomorrow? Forecasting and Predicting Marine Weather and Ocean Conditions

Forecasting and predictions of marine weather and ocean conditions are critical to safety and efficiency for fishermen and others who work on the ocean. The National Weather Service (NWS) provides official marine forecasts for the region. NERACOOS (the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems) also produces predictions of various ocean conditions (e.g. waves, currents, water temperatures, salinity) from various numerical models. This seminar will provide an overview of the NWS marine forecasting operations and products along with an overview of the predictions and tools available from NERACOOS. The seminar will solicit feedback from the participants on how to improve the delivery of ocean condition predictions.

Host: Steve Train, F/V Hattie Rose

Moderator: Tom Shyka, NERACOOS

Panel: John Cannon, National Weather Service
Dr. Robert Beardsley, Woods Hole Oceanographic Inst.
Kate Burns, Gulf of Maine Research Institute
James Manning, Northeast Fisheries Science Center

2:45 pm Rockland Room

Maine Permit Bank Program: Full Speed Ahead FY 2012

The Maine Department of Marine Resources received a \$3 million grant from NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to establish a permit bank of Federal Multispecies (Groundfish) Permits - the Maine Permit Bank Program (MPBP). The fishing privileges associated with those permits will be used to assist small-scale fishermen along the coast of Maine. Qualified permit holders must be fishing on vessels not larger than 45 feet in length, land their catch in Maine and be enrolled in a Maine based Sector. After two rounds of Requests for Proposals (RFP) to purchase permits, it is anticipated that the MPBP will have 10 permits to assist groundfish fishermen with for the 2012 Fishing Year (FY). In this session, DMR staff will provide an overview and status update of the MPBP and detail how the program is going to transition from a pilot to a fully fledged program for FY2012, including the distribution of the annual catch entitlement (ACE; quota) to qualified permit holders for the upcoming fishing year.

Host: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Moderator: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Panel: Ben Martens, Port Clyde Sector Manager
Ed Snell, Hook Fishermen – Northeast Coastal
Communities Sector
William Whitmore, National Marine Fisheries Service
Randy Cushman, Port Clyde
Bert Jongerden, Portland Fish Exchange
Geoffrey Smith, The Nature Conservancy
Trisha De Graaf, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

2:45 pm Rockport Room

Maine's Lobster Limited Entry System – An Independent Analysis

LD 1532 was passed during the first session of the 125th Legislature. It requires the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) to: “contract for an independent analysis of the limited entry lobster license system under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6421. The analysis must include, but is not limited to, an evaluation of the limited entry system, and determine whether the benefits, including the benefits of conservation, outweigh the costs, including the impact of restrictions on entry to the lobster fishing industry.” During 2012, DMR will be working with an independent contractor to carry out this work, which will address the strengths and shortcomings of the existing limited entry system for the lobster fishery and seek to identify where changes could be made to

improve this system. This session is designed to provide an opportunity for input into these questions.

Host: Elliott Thomas, Maine Lobstermen's Association

Moderator: Elliott Thomas, Maine Lobstermen's Association

Panel: Patrick Keliher, Commissioner, Maine DMR
Deirdre Gilbert, Maine DMR

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2012

8:00 am Samoset Pool & Fitness Center

Water Survival Training: Water Safety and Emergency Egress Training

The Coast Guard's Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Program will once again provide water safety training at this year's Fishermen's Forum. In addition to life raft and immersion suit training we will also provide free inspections of your immersion suits. Bring your suit or try one of ours in the heated pool Friday and Saturday morning.

Host: Kevin Plowman, USCG SNNE

Panel: Gary Moores
Paul Smith-Valley
Dan Hieter

9:00 am Pen Bay Room

Alewife Harvesters of Maine Annual Meeting

The Alewife Harvesters of Maine is a group of alewife harvesters, conservation commissioners, biologists and concerned citizens who have joined together to conserve alewives and the river-fishing heritage in the State of Maine. Please join the Board of Directors for their annual meeting as they take care of business, set important new priorities for 2012 and discuss the status and management of these key marine resources

Host: Mary Beth Tooley, Small Pelagic Group / O'Hara Corp.,

Moderator: Jeffrey Pierce, Executive Director

Panel: Richard Welch, Director
Bob Baines, Director
Theo Willis, Director
Jake Kritzer, Director
Michael Kane, Director
Cheryl Weeks, Secretary

9:00 am Upstairs Fitness Center Room

TAA Workshop: Lobster Product Quality and Handling -

This seminar was designed for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program. TAA participants will get credit for attending this seminar, but the workshop is open to anyone who wishes to attend. Proper handling of lobster aboard the boat and at the wharf can have a big impact on the quality of the product, all the way down to the final consumer. By taking care of quality right from the start, fishermen have a better chance of capturing more value from their landings. This workshop will review good handling practices for lobstermen, and will provide information on how individuals and groups can work with their buyers, and try other approaches to earn more per pound of lobster landed.

Host: Annie Tselikis, Maine Fishermen's Forum

Moderator: Annie Tselikis, Maine Fishermen's Forum

Panel: Dana Morse, Maine Sea Grant and UMaine Coop. Extension

9:00 am Rockland Room

Maine Lobster Boat Racing Association 2012 Pre-Season Meeting

The Maine Lobster Boat Racing Association (MLBRA) will be holding their 2012 pre-season meeting at the Maine Fishermen's Forum to discuss the upcoming race season. All are invited – non-members are encouraged to participate and join MLBRA.

Host: Brian Robbins, Commercial Fisheries News

Moderator: Jon Johansen, MLBRA President

Panel: Nick Page, Boothbay Harbor
Marshall Farnham, Boothbay Harbor
Stephen Brooks, Rockland
Eric Blackwood, Moosabec
Keith Otis, Searsport
Travis Otis, Searsport
Nick Wiberg, Stonington
Wes Lash, Friendship
Henry Barnes, Harpswell

Chris Byers, Winter Harbor
Don Drisko, Pemaquid
Laurie Crane, Pemaquid

9:00 am Rockport Room

Shellfish and Seaweed Aquaculture 101 for Fishermen

Aquaculture represents an opportunity for Maine fishermen to diversify their incomes, and to take advantage of strong market demand; several fishermen in Maine have already made aquaculture part of their years' activity. The integration of aquaculture production can also help maintain healthy working waterfronts and other shore side infrastructure. However, there is a lot to learn for new producers, from permitting and regulation to choosing the right site and the right species to grow. During this session, we'll introduce the important topics to know about, the people you need to talk with, and the species with the most potential.

Host: Paul Anderson, Maine Sea Grant

Moderator: Sebastian Belle, Maine Aquaculture Assn.

Panel: Diantha Robinson, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources
Chris Davis, Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center
Sarah Redmond, Maine Sea Grant and
UME Cooperative Extension
Dana Morse, Maine Sea Grant
and UME Cooperative Extension
Frank Peaslee, *F/V Hannah Marie* and Little Island Oysters

9:00 am Camden Room

Northern Shrimp Management - Next Steps

The Northern Shrimp fishery has fluctuated over the years due to unstable stock and market related issues. High landings over the past two seasons may have contributed to the low catch allowed for this fishing year. In order to provide better stability for the fishery, the ASMFC Shrimp Section and DMR will be proposing alternative management options for the 2012-2013 fishing year. Plan to attend this session in order to provide your comments on this season and potential changes for the future.

Host: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Moderator: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Panel: Maggie Hunter, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources – Boothbay
Vincent Balzano, Chair ASMFC Shrimp Advisors
Stephanie Pinkham
Arnold Gamage, South Bristol
Marshall Alexander, Biddeford
Senator Brian Langley

10:30 am Pen Bay Room

**River Herring - Updates on Maine Sustainability Plans and Petition
on Endangered Species Listing**

We continue on our river herring theme. The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's river herring plan requires all states to close river herring fisheries (commercial/recreational) by 2012 except for river systems with a sustainable plan. Come hear about Maine's Sustainability Plans.

On August 5, 2011, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), received a petition from the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), requesting the listing of alewife and blueback herring as threatened throughout all or a significant portion of their range under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). NMFS Protected Species staff will provide a description of the process by which the Agency will respond to the petition.

Host: Mary Beth Tooley, Small Pelagic Group / O'Hara Corp.

Moderator: Mary Beth Tooley, Small Pelagic Group / O'Hara Corp.

Panel: Kevin Rousseau, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources
Tara Trinko, NMFS, Protected Resources

10:30 am Upstairs Fitness Center Room

TAA Workshop: Lobster

Market Overview

This seminar was designed for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program. TAA participants will get credit for attending this seminar, but the workshop is open to anyone who wishes to attend. This course will provide a basic overview to the Lobster Market in the Northeast. By establishing a stronger understanding of how lobster functions in the marketplace and by exploring the importance of relationships between harvesters, dealers, processors, and consumers; we can better understand how and where to market our lobsters locally, regionally, nationally and internationally in the future.

Host: Annie Tselikis, Maine Fishermen's Forum

Moderator: Annie Tselikis, Maine Fishermen's Forum

Panel: Dana Morse, Maine Sea Grant and UMaine Coop. Extension
John Sauve, Food and Wellness Group

10:30 am Rockland Room

The Food Guys: "Bourbon Street Goes Downeast"

Those wacky Food Guys are back again by popular demand! "Chef Jim," Mike Young, and Jim's young apprentice helpers are back again for the 10th anniversary year to amaze, entertain, teach and just have a good time – all about food! Having spent some time recently at one of the crossroads for food culture, New Orleans, Chef Jim will enlighten and entertain on some of the history of New Orleans' signature dishes, and how fast and easy they are to bring to your table. So if you've been to our session before – come on back! And if not, come and see what everyone is talking about!

Host: Kristan Porter, *F/V Whitney & Ashley*

Rick Albertson, Ridley's Landing, Inc.

Crew: Jim LeVerso

Mike Young

Kelsea, Micailah and Moriah Albertson

10:30 am Rockport Room

New Strategies to Streamline Monitoring and Business Management in the Fishing Industry

Managers, scientists and industry are looking for options that will improve fisheries data collection. This seminar will be based around recent efforts in electronic data transmission and will include discussion on electronic logbooks, on-deck cameras, and other systems that capture and transmit catch, fuel, hold temperatures and other data.

Host: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Moderator: Adam Baukus, Gulf of Maine Research Institute

Panel: Steve Eayers, Gulf of Maine Research Institute

Alan Steele, Traceall Co., Scotland

Gary Libby, Port Clyde Groundfisherman

Jason Joyce, Swan's Island Groundfish / Lobsterman

Croy Carlin, Gulf of Maine Research Institute

10:30 am Camden Room

Rebuilding Maine's Scallop Resource: The Merits of Closed Areas & Rotational Management

Maine's scallop resources are considered to be overfished, with fishery participants limited to a short winter season, complementing other forms of year round incomes. Total landings for the scallop fishery peaked in 1981 at around 4 million pounds valued at \$15 million. Since 2003, landings have been less than 200,000 pounds, which is 4% compared to historic landings. As the agency responsible for the State's fisheries, the DMR has begun to aggressively rebuild the scallop resource for the benefit of all the people of the State of Maine while allowing a limited fishery to occur; an integral part of the strategic rebuilding effort is the implementation of closed areas. Closed areas have been shown to greatly benefit rebuilding efforts around the world in other depleted fisheries, particularly when fishermen make meaningful sacrifices for the long term good

of the fishery. This session will provide information on Maine's scallop closed areas, the success and benefits of closed area and rotational management in the US Federal scallop fishery and around the world.

Host: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Moderator: Kristan Porter, F/V Whitney & Ashley

Panel: Andy Mays, Scallop Diver / Scallop Advisory
Council Member

Deborah Hart, New England Fisheries Science Center

Trisha De Graaf, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Dana Temple,

Togue Brawn, Maine Dayboat Scallops

Wally Gray, scallop dragger

1:00 pm Pen Bay Room

NOAA Office of Law Enforcement: Industry Outreach

NOAA Office of Law Enforcement is hosting a session discussing how to improve communications with the fishing industry. Don Frei, Compliance Liaison, and Sheila Jarnes, Outreach Specialist will present the initiatives they have been involved in over the past year, including dock visits, meetings with industry, and simplified outreach materials. The focus of the session is to gather feedback on how to best get information to industry on the regulations as they change, in an effort to improve compliance in Northeast fisheries.

Host: Maggie Raymond, Associated Fisheries of Maine

Moderator: Maggie Raymond, Associated Fisheries of Maine

Panel: Don Frei, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
Sheila Jarnes, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement

1:00 pm Rockland Room

Improving the Bottom Line in New England Fisheries: An Update on Fuel Efficiency and Gear Selectivity Projects

Many fishermen in the Gulf of Maine, on their own or working with scientists and non-profit partners, are exploring ways to improve their operational efficiency on the water. From modifying the shape of their hull, using hydrogen-assist combustion, filtering oil, changing the way they operate their vessel using information from fuel monitoring systems, or modifying their gear to be more fuel or catch efficient, all sorts of options are available to fishermen. But which ones stand up to a “reality” check? Which ones make sense from a cost-benefit analysis? This session is organized by NH Sea Grant/UNH Cooperative Extension’s Green-Fit Project which aims to integrate results from it’s work with a network of other individuals and groups who are also testing ways to improve operational efficiency. Much of the work presented was funded by NOAA’s Northeast Cooperative Research Office. In this session, updates from operational efficiency test-projects from independent fishermen, The Gulf of Maine Research Institute, NOAA’s Cooperative Research Program, the GARNET Project, NH Sea Grant/UNH Cooperative Extension, and the Penobscot East Resource Center will be presented. The session will also offer you the opportunity share your own experiences with efforts to improve your operational efficiency.

Host: Paul Anderson, Maine Sea Grant

Moderator: Carolyn Woodhead, NOAA Northeast Cooperative
Research Program

Erik Chapman, NH Sea Grant / UNH Cooperative Extension

Panel: Adam Baukus, Gulf of Maine Research Institute

Robin Alden, Penobscot East Resource Center

Shelly Tallack, Gulf of Maine Research Institute

David Chosid, MA Division of Marine Fisheries

1:00 pm Rockport Room

Is Offshore Wind Energy Coming to Maine? Where? When? How? Who makes the decisions? And What Will it Mean for Fishermen?

The first application for a submerged lands lease for ocean wind energy in federal waters off Maine has raised questions about ocean wind energy and how it will impact fishing. A

moderated panel will answer audience questions about:

- Impacts to fish, wildlife, fisheries, and other human uses
- Engineering, deployment, maintenance, and operations
- Economics of project financing, impacts on electric rates, and the potential for jobs
- State and federal regulatory processes & timelines, and opportunities for engagement
- Marine Spatial Planning in the Gulf of Maine, and how it interacts with siting of offshore wind energy

A panel of fishermen will respond and attendees will have the opportunity to draft comments to be submitted to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management about the recent lease application, and generate input to the Northeast Regional Ocean Council about Marine Spatial Planning.

Host: Paul Anderson, Maine Sea Grant

Moderator: Heather Deese, Island Institute

Panel: David Edelson, Technip USA

Brian Hooker, US Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Paul Williamson, Maine Wind Industry Initiative

John Weber, Northeast Regional Oceans Council

Dr. Peter Jumars, University of Maine

Finn Teller, StatOil

Patrick Keliher, DMR Commissioner

1:00 pm Camden Room

From Lobster Bait to Lobster Golf Balls: Celebrating 25 years with the Lobster Institute

Come celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Lobster Institute. Share stories, learn about our research and outreach over the years. Meet old friends – and yes, there will be cake!

Host: Sheila Dassatt, Downeast

Lobstermen's Assn.

Moderator: Dr. Bob Bayer, Lobster Institute

2:45 pm Pen Bay Room

Our Changing Ocean - An Update on Ocean Acidification - New Efforts to Measure OA in Maine and Understand the Impacts on Our Fisheries

Carbon Dioxide levels in the atmosphere have increased to historic high levels causing the oceans of the world to rapidly become more acidic. This seminar will provide new information about Ocean Acidification (OA) in Maine. Panelists will describe two pilot projects monitoring the pH of Casco Bay and the St. George River estuary which may provide opportunities for participation by fishermen. Researchers from University of Maine will describe their work to learn more about the impact of OA on lobsters. A Damariscotta River shellfish hatchery operator will describe his experience and those of colleagues in the Pacific Northwest with oyster larvae and plankton populations possibly related to OA.

A local lobster industry panelist will bring an industry perspective on OA.

Host: Paul Anderson, Maine Sea Grant

Moderator: Sherm Hoyt, Maine Sea Grant Univ. of Maine

Cooperative Extension

Panel: Mike Doan, Friends of Casco Bay

Erin Spencer Mullen, Georges River Tidewater Assn.

Bill Mook, Mook Sea Farm, Inc.

Dr. Tim Bowden, Aquaculture Institute

Josh Hall, Aquaculture Institute

Bob Baines, Fisherman and Alewife Harvesters of Maine

2:45 pm Camden Room

The Bait Update for 2012 Fishing Season

2:45 pm Ian Bricknell and Deborah Bouchard will discuss their paper "Determining the Health Risks of Lobster bait to Marine Animals." There will be an update of Bill

1609 – “Ensure the Safety of Bait in Maine’s Fishery” by Dierdre Gilbert or Patrick Keliher.

3:30 pm Update on ASMFC actions on Menhaden. Amendment 2 to Interstate Fishery Management Plan will be discussed by Terry Stockwell or Jennie Bichrest.

4:00 pm Update on ASMFC and Council actions on Herring.

Host: Jennie Bichrest, Purse Line Bait

Moderator: Sarah Cotnoir, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Panel: Terry Stockwell, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Dierdre Gilbert, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Patrick Keliher, Commissioner, Maine Dept.
of Marine Resources

Dr. Deborah Bouchard, University of Maine

Dr. Ian Bricknell, University of Maine

Jennie Bichrest ASMFC AP Menhaden

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2012

7:30 Pen Bay Room

Focus Group: How Do You Use Information from Ocean Buoys?

The Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observation Systems (NERACOOS) is holding a group discussion at the Fishermen's Forum to gather more information about how the information from buoys are used by fishermen to make decisions that impact their work. Susan Frankel and Wendy Graham from RMC Research Corporation in Portsmouth, NH and will conduct the groups to follow up on a regional survey sent out in the fall. We will be supported by Cassie Durette and Tom Shyka from NERACOOS. This will take place on Sunday morning March 4th, starting with breakfast at (7:30) and the discussion from (8:00 to 9:00).

Moderator Wendy Graham, RMC Research Corporation

Susan Frankel, RMC Research Corporation

Support Cassie Durette, NERACOOS

Tom Shyka, NERACOOS