

Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting

Friday, March 1, 2024

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Golf Club, Fishermen's Forum

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introduction of Council members - Janine Drouin, Chair, CFSC
- II. Approval of the Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting, December 13, 2023
- III. Establishment of the Nominating Committee (3 members) – Janine Drouin
 - a. Nominations from Council members
 - b. Charge to Nominating Committee: Nominate for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for 1 year term and report to June Quarterly meeting.
- IV. Awarding of a Damage Control Kit to a Near-Miss Survey participant – Janine
- V. Reminder: Damage Control Kit Workshop – Fishermen's Forum
 - a. 2:45 pm – 4:15 pm Camden Room
- VI. Update on Wind Energy-recent BOEM meeting (standing agenda item) – Ann Backus
- VII. Discussion of Potential Projects for 2024 – Janine Drouin
 - a. Suggestions welcome from Council members and the public
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Next meetings
 - a. Working group – Wednesday, April 17, 2024, 7:00-8:00 pm (virtual via Teams)
 - b. Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 7:00-8:00 pm (virtual via Teams)
 - c. Quarterly meeting, Wednesday, June 19, 2024 (virtual via Teams)
- X. Adjournment

List of commercial Fishing Safety Council Members

The By-laws of the Maine Commercial Fishing Safety Council call for members to come from a variety of fishing and fishing-related sectors. The nine current members and the positions they fill are listed below.

- License Holder and member of the Lobster Advisory Council - John Drouin
- License Holder and member of either Sea Urchin or Scallop Advisory Council - Rob Odlin
- Three members who are license holders and represent commercial marine harvesting activities – Curtis Haycock, Zac Gower, Parker Poole
- An educator experienced in community-based adult education and volunteer safety training - Ann Backus, MS, Harvard Chan School of Public Health
- An expert in marine safety equipment – John McMillan, McMillan Offshore
- A spouse or domestic partner of a license holder - Janine Drouin
- A member of the public – Kris Boehmer, Brown and Brown Marine Insurance

Selected Accomplishments and Activities:

Near-Miss Survey of licensed Fishermen 2022

Booth at Fishermen’s Forum 2023 with survey results

Booth at Fishermens Forum 2024 and Damage Control Workshop 2024

Recommendations to Commissioner Keliher:

- 1) 1) Markings: The markings of aquaculture farms and pogie gillnets are inadequate. With respect to the aquaculture farms, the perimeters of the farms should be marked with flexible reflective radar markers that improve the visibility of the perimeter for fishing and rescue vessels. This would be important for narrow navigable channels. With respect to gillnets, there should be highly visible markings for the deployed nets that take the place of the small lobster buoys currently in use.
- 2) Damage Control Kits – request that the DMR provide two (2) damage control kits for raffle at the 2024 Maine Fishermen’s Forum where we will offer a Damage Control Kit Workshop
- 3) Training – Our Near-Miss survey showed that only 27% of respondents had USCG safety training. Fisheries that employ dragging gear, cables and winches were singled out as fisheries that could benefit from more training. We also encourage training in fire suppression, electrical circuits, ergonomics, CPR, First Aid, boat handling and navigation.
- 4) The Council should provide a list of online training courses that could be made available to the Maine fishing community.