

Resources for conserving commercial fishing access

Created by Maine Coastal Program for Maine DMR Shellfish Advisory
Council

April 2022



Background

- ▶ January 2022 ShAC meeting
- ▶ Discussion about access issues, potential solutions, and funding sources
- ▶ Information organized post-meeting
- ▶ Gather information into a reference document
 - ▶ Provide resources and examples
 - ▶ Useful for town officials and volunteer committees trying to figure out what to do
- ▶ Many groups working on this, including Maine Coastal Program

Grouping Concerns

- ▶ Space, facilities, and use conflicts
- ▶ Ensuring commercial access over time
- ▶ Building and maintaining relationships
- ▶ Tracking change
- ▶ Municipal capacity limitations

DRAFT Resources for Conserving Commercial Fishing Access

Created by Maine Coastal Program for the Maine Department of Marine Resources Shellfish Advisory Council
March 2022 (version 1)



Photo: Melissa Britsch

Contact Melissa Britsch (Melissa.britsch@maine.gov) with questions or for pdf versions of documents.

Grouping Concerns

- ▶ Information included:
 - ▶ Potential approaches
 - ▶ Funding sources
 - ▶ Potential partner groups
 - ▶ Examples
- ▶ Also includes a list of previous working waterfronts and coastal access studies
 - ▶ Not necessarily limited to shellfish and walk-in access
- ▶ Focuses on walk-in and public launch facilities

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Goals

- ▶ Intended for:
 - ▶ Municipal elected officials and volunteer committees
 - ▶ Harvesters
 - ▶ Landowners

Example - Issue 2: Ensuring commercial access over time (pg. 6)

Potential Approaches		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permanent protection via ownership of sites by the town, state or federal government, land trust, harvester co-op, etc.		

Example - Issue 2: Ensuring commercial access over time (pg. 6)

Potential Approaches	Resources	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permanent protection via ownership of sites by the town, state or federal government, land trust, harvester co-op, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land for Maine’s Future Program: <u>Working Waterfront Access Protection Program</u> or <u>Water Access Program</u>• Maine Coast Heritage Trust and other local/regional land trusts	

Example - Issue 2: Ensuring commercial access over time (pg. 6)

Potential Approaches	Resources	Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent protection via ownership of sites by the town, state or federal government, land trust, harvester co-op, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land for Maine’s Future Program: <u>Working Waterfront Access Protection Program</u> or <u>Water Access Program</u> Maine Coast Heritage Trust and other local/regional land trusts 	<p><u>MCHT land conservation guide</u>: This guide outlines land conservation options for landowners, including easements, donations, and sales.</p> <p>Working Waterfront Access Protection Program: The <u>Spruce Head Fisherman’s Co-op</u> purchased their wharf using funds from the LMF program and also was able to purchase a nearby property to expand their operations.</p> <p>Land purchases in collaboration with land trusts and diverse funding sources: The purchase of <u>Woodward Point in Brunswick</u> resulted in the creation of a public preserve and continued shoreline access for shellfish harvesters.</p>

Next Steps

- ▶ Incorporate feedback
- ▶ Post on Maine Coastal Program Website
- ▶ Distribute via the ShAC and other channels

Feedback?

- ▶ Thoughts?
- ▶ Info to add?
- ▶ What would make this more useful?
- ▶ People who should review this?
- ▶ Email: Melissa.Britsch@maine.gov
- ▶ Phone (call or text): 207-215-6171

Questions?

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- ▶ Thank you to everyone who has reviewed this document!

