

Casco Bay Regional Shellfish Working Group



May 9, 2022
Brunswick

Introductions

Name, town or organization, and role



Mission of the Working Group

Collaboratively address pressing issues facing the wild-harvest shellfish community, sharing expertise and best practices for management, conservation, research, and monitoring across towns and stakeholders in Casco Bay.

Agenda

4:30 - Introductions and WG overview

4:40 - Town Sharing

5:00 - Presentations and discussion

6:00 - Announcement and next steps

6:15 - Food and networking



Town Sharing

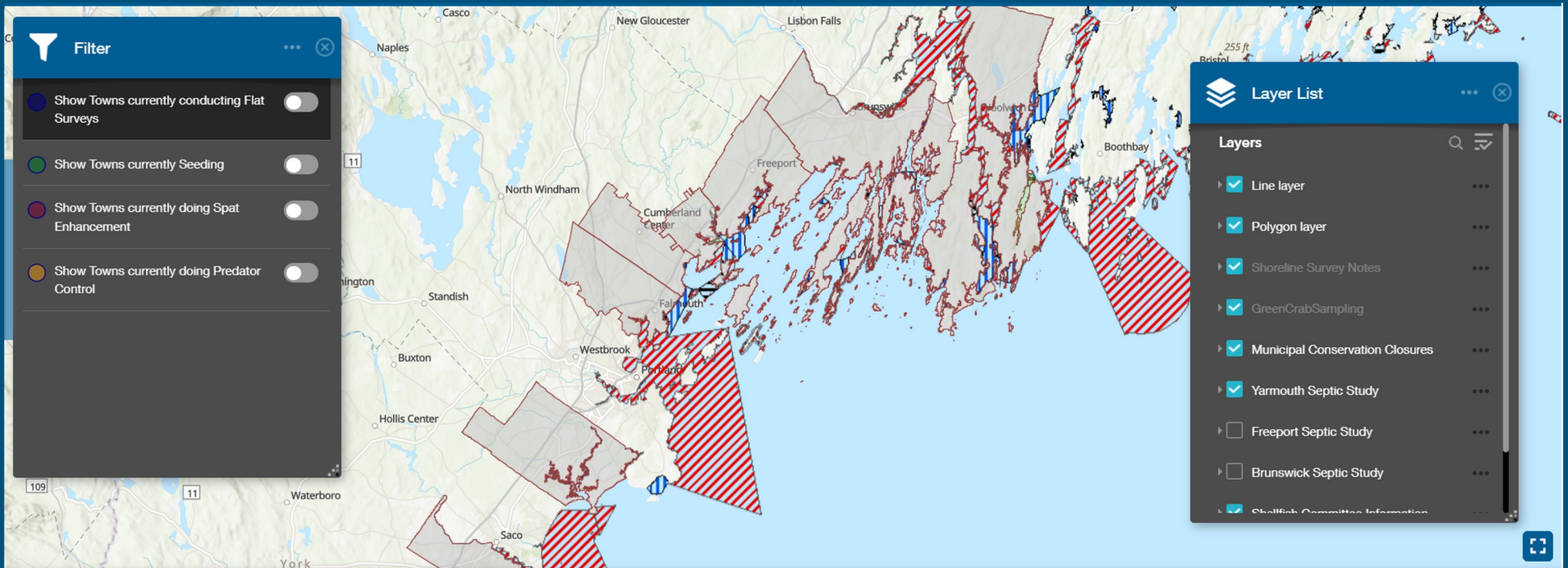
What are the current issues your shellfish/marine resource committee is discussing?



Community Intertidal Data Portal

- This idea started with the shellfish community!
 - Scoping and beta testing with shellfish committees, wardens, and harvesters
 - Shellfish specific maps
- Created to be an actionable resource for committees and promote knowledge sharing among communities.
- Launch in June 2022
- <https://community-intertidal-data-portal-gpcog.hub.arcgis.com/>

Local Shellfish Conservation



Local Shellfish Conservation

Find address or place

Map navigation and utility icons: zoom in (+), zoom out (-), home, search, layer list, filter, print, window, and help (i).

Water Quality Dashboard

Water Quality Dashboard

This dashboard includes multiple sources of data to help identify and mitigate pollution sources that adversely affect water quality in the intertidal.

The overboard discharges, combined sewer overflows, P90 scores, and watersheds on this map help to understand potential pollution sources and locations. Bacteria from human or animal waste can close waters to shellfish harvesting and understanding what pollution sources are contributing to these closures is the first step to mitigation.

Data in the charts and indicators reflect the data points in the area that is zoomed in (or current map extent, I'm just not sure how many people are familiar with that term).

General Notes

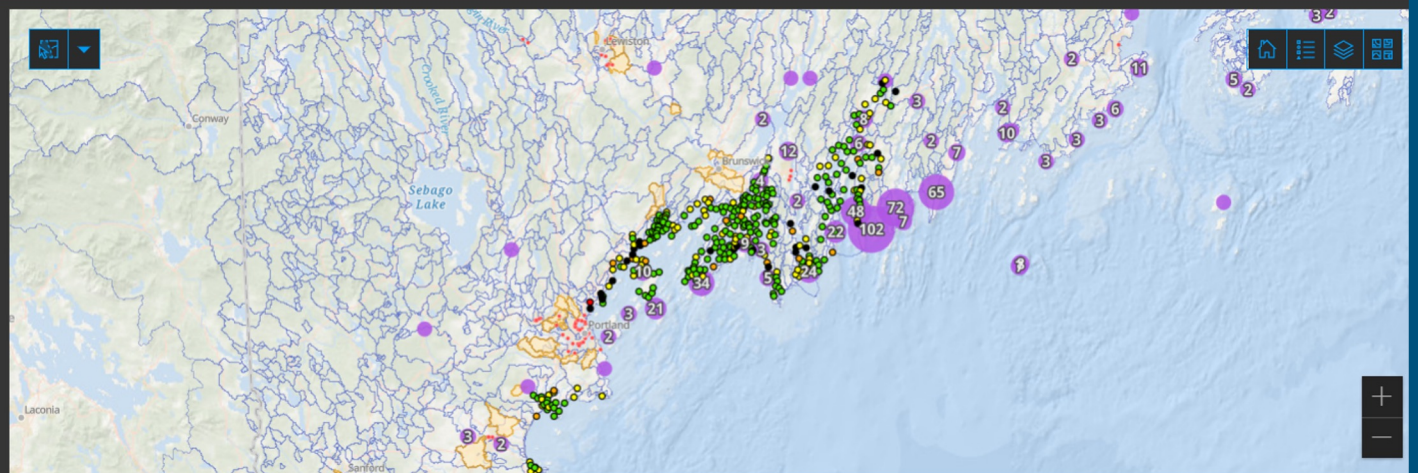
DMR P90 Scores

Water Sampling Stations

374

Overboard Discharge Permits

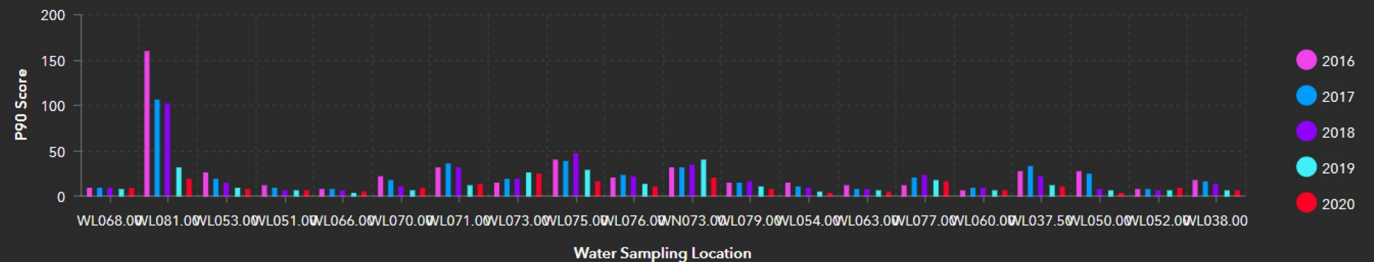
560



CHS, Esri, GEBCO, DeLorme, NaturalVue | Maine Geological Survey | Maine DEP | Maine Department of Environmental Protection | Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, ... Powered by Esri

P90 Scores (2016 - 2020)

Chart reflects Sampling Station shown in map. Click on the chart to select a particular point or set of points. Select points on map to see them reflected in the chart.



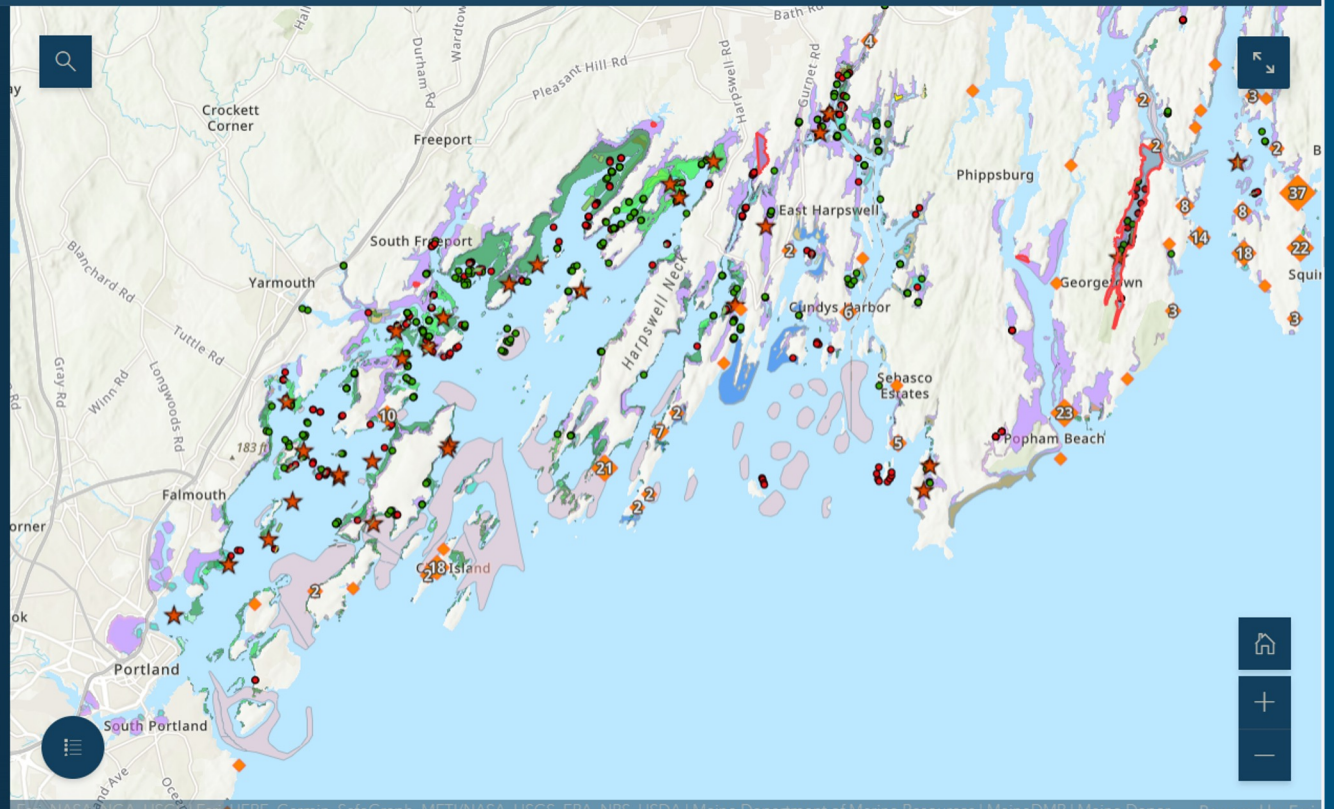
Working Waterfront Story Map

Introduction Intertidal Uses in Casco Bay Balancing Intertidal Uses Intertidal Infrastructure Intertidal Access

Balancing Intertidal Uses

Balancing conflicting uses in the intertidal is an increasingly important issue as the demands on, and threats to, the intertidal zone increase in scope and complexity. To the right are data on several of the intertidal uses discussed here, including aquaculture, shellfish and seagrass habitat, and navigation. We still lack data on the distribution and density of many recreational uses, such as recreational boating, which could be an area for improvement.

05 / 15
Scroll down to explore these data by category. To learn more about specific features, click on them in the map. You can



Preserving Access to the Intertidal

A new guidance document:

- Created in response to requests from the Fall 2021 meeting
- Intended for municipal staff, shellfish/marine resource committees, coastal landowners, harvesters, and other community members
- Encourages collaboration



Preserving Access to the Intertidal - Process



Consulted with:

- state agencies
- relevant nonprofits and land trusts
- realtors
- potential users like harvesters and marine resource/shellfish committees

Preserving Access to the Intertidal - Outline

- Community outreach and engagement
- Loss of access on private land
- Loss of access due to encroaching development
- Updating and/or expanding WW infrastructure
- Funding comparison charts
- Technical assistance

Going Forward

- Lunch-and-learns, webinars, etc.
- We'd like your input on how to distribute the guidance document



Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Jeremy Gabrielson, Senior Conservation and Community Planner

Old Eastport Rd.



Bailey's mistake



Woodward Point



Department of Marine Resources - Document

<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/mc/p/access/index.htm>

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.

Funding and Opportunities

- Shore and Harbor Planning Grant
- Coastal Communities Grants
- Land for Maine's Future
 - Water Access Program
 - Working Waterfront Access Protection Program*



Funding and Opportunities

- Shore and Harbor Planning Grant
 - Documenting access and planning to maintain/increase access
 - Right of Way rediscovery
 - Public water access infrastructure planning
 - Economic analyses
- Coastal Communities Grants



Funding and Opportunities

- Land for Maine's Future
 - Water Access Program
 - Working Waterfront Access Protection Program



Gouldsboro

- Shore & Harbor Planning Grant
- ID priority areas for shellfishing
- Work with landowners and land trusts
 - Formalize access
 - Create new access

<https://gouldsboroshore.me/>



Contact Information

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Intertidal Access Mapping



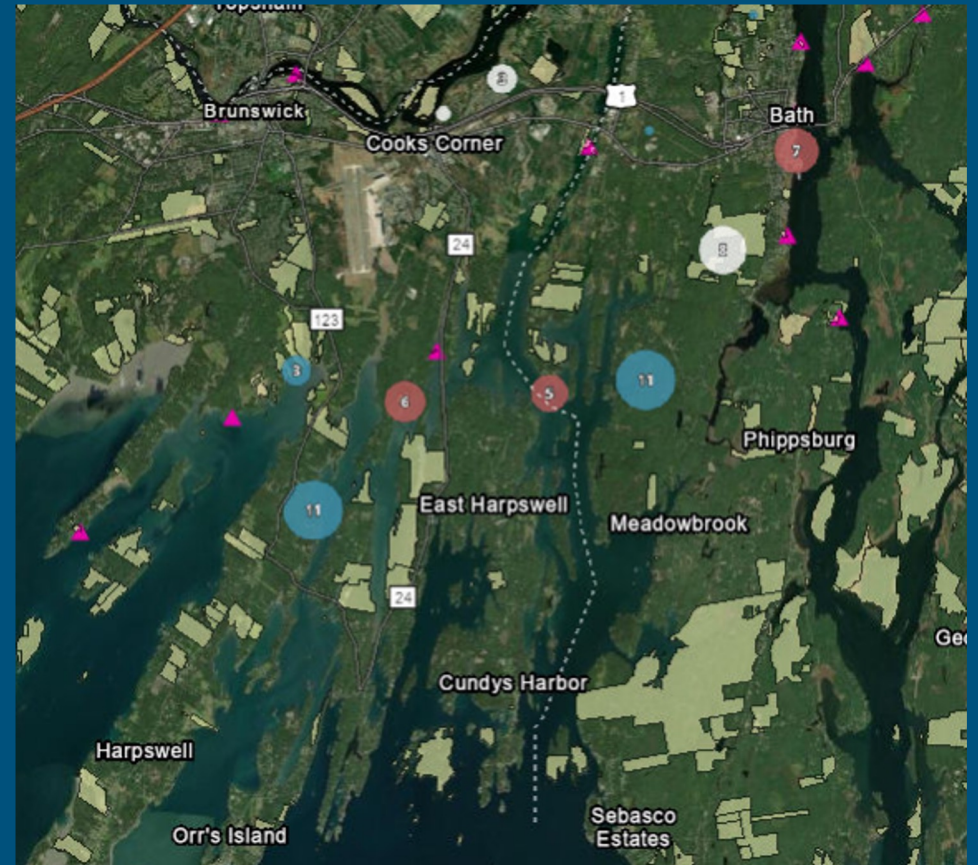
Inventory public and private access to the intertidal for shellfish harvesting (past, present, and potential future).



Develop a resource that can be used to identify opportunities to protect, improve, or acquire access in priority places.

Intertidal Access Mapping

- Maps and datasets for each town
- Roadmap for other towns who want to inventory access
- Identify and pursue priority areas to formalize, improve, or acquire access



Discussion

Announcements

- Current funding opportunities
 - LMF - Water access (rolling)
 - GOPIF - Service provider/community action grants

- May 23 - Clam tasting event at Luke's Lobster
 - Free, but registration is required
 - <https://www.manomet.org/event/discover-maines-clams-lukes-lobster-portland/>



Next Steps

- Copies of the guidance document
- Meeting summary - available online
- Spring/summer field work
- Meetings will resume next fall
 - Share ideas on topics/shared projects



Preserving Access to the Intertidal

A guide for coastal stakeholders and municipalities

