

US Maine blue mussel - dredge/rake

Overview

FIP Description

This FIP is focused on the wild harvest of mussels in the state of Maine (USA). The goals of this project are to establish and increase collection of stock status data, to establish harvest control rules and objectives for a management plan, and to assess the impacts of mussel harvest on the ecosystem. This is a fishery that occurs in state waters, and is managed by the Department of Marine Resources in Maine. There are both wild and farmed mussel industries in Maine ? this FIP is focused on the wild fishery, which includes harvesters targeting adult mussels to be sold into the marketplace directly, and harvesters targeting seed mussels to transplant to bottom aquaculture leases for farming purposes. Most of the fishery is executed with drag gear, and there is a small amount of hand raking that occurs. The work group includes members from both the wild and bottom aquaculture industries, in addition to processors, distributors, and a major retailer, who are all committed to the long-term sustainability of this fishery in Maine.

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:



% of Indicators Tracked Basic FIPs may focus their workplans on a subset of the indicators. This shows the proportion of total indicators the FIP is working on.



Actions Progress This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.



Actions Overview This shows the proportion of actions that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	30%	70%	0%

Red Indicator Progress This shows the proportion of actions specifically addressing red indicators that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started. This helps users understand the progress the FIP is making on the biggest challenges in the fishery.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
0%	50%	50%	0%

FIP Progress Rating

B - Good Progress

FIP Objective(s)

Our primary goals for this FIP are:

- Baseline stock status data is collected and a mechanism is established for maintaining data collection into the future (by January 2021).
- Harvest control rules are established that protect the long-term sustainability of the mussel fishery and those whose livelihoods depend on it (by June 2021).
- Assess the impacts of mussel harvest on the ecosystem, including habitat and other species (by June 2020).
- Establish the objectives and components for a state-wide mussel fishery management plan with appropriate governance and community engagement to ensure long-term sustainability of the mussel fishery and access for local harvesters (by January 2021).

FIP Type

Basic

FIP Stage

Stage 4: Improvements in Fishing Practices or Fishery Management

Start and Projected End Dates

January, 2018 -
January, 2022

Species

Common Name

Blue Mussels

Scientific Name

Mytilus edulis

[Buying Guide Link Image](#)

[Blue Mussels](#)

[Buying Guide](#)

Gear Type

[Dredge](#)

[Rake](#)

Location**FAO Major Fishing Area**

[Area 21 \(Atlantic, Northwest\)](#)

Exclusive Economic Zones**Country**

United States of America (the)

Geographic Scope

Maine state waters

Estimated Total FIP Landings

4140 metric tons

FIP Leads**Organization Name**

Gulf of Maine Research Institute

Organization Type

NGO

Primary Contact

Kyle Foley

Email

kfoley@gmri.org

Phone

207-228-1670

Website Name

[Gulf of Maine Research Institute](#)

© Fishery Progress. All Rights Reserved.

Source URL: <https://fisheryprogress.org/fip-profile/maine-blue-mussel-dredgerake>