

**State of Maine, Department of Marine Resources**  
**Public Notice of Hearing**

In accordance with 12 M.R.S.A. §6192, a public hearing will be held Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 1:00 PM at the Augusta Civic Center, Washington-York Room, 76 Community Drive Augusta. This hearing has been requested by the user groups (scallop harvesters and general public) and will be held to take comments on whether to continue or repeal the emergency closures, Chapter 11.10(H)(1) Atlantic Sea Scallop Limitations, Closed Areas, Emergency regulations, that became effective February 4, 2009 for the remainder of the scallop season open from February 25 through March 31, 2009.

In an effort to reach middle ground and to address some of the concerns that have been raised in an earlier announcement by the Department that we were going forward with a state-wide closure of the scallop fishery, the Department modified its approach and instead established six conservation closures to protect Maine's scallop resource due to the risk of unusual damage and imminent depletion of the scallop resource. The closures are the same scallop fishery closure areas as proposed in October 2008 with the addition of all near shore waters east of Western Head, including Cobscook Bay.

Agency Contact persons: Togue Brawn, TEL 207-624-6558, EMAIL: [togue.brawn@maine.gov](mailto:togue.brawn@maine.gov), FAX 207-624-6024; OR: DMR, L Churchill, PO Box 8, West Boothbay Hbr, ME 04575; TEL: 207-633-9584; EMAIL: [laurice.churchill@maine.gov](mailto:laurice.churchill@maine.gov) FAX (207) 633-9579; TTY 207-633-9500; If you require accommodations due to disability, please contact Amanda Beckwith, TEL 207-287-7578