



Maine Blue Economy Task Force

Public Meeting

Thursday, December 12, 2024

Welcome and introductions

Our team includes:

- **Michael Conathan** – Michael Conathan Consulting LLC
- **Charles Colgan** – Center for the Blue Economy
- **Dana O'Brien** – BioHarbor Strategies, LLC
- **Laura Taylor Singer** – SAMBAS Consulting, LLC

Agenda

11:00 AM	Welcome/Introductions/Review Agenda
11:10 AM	Blue Economy Definition
11:40 AM	Legislative Report Outline
12:15 PM	Lunch
12:30 PM	Breakout Sessions
1:15 PM	Reconvene and Discussion
1:55 PM	Wrap up and Next Steps
2:00 PM	Adjourn

Objectives for Today

1. Finalize definition of the blue economy.
2. Share outline of legislative report and schedule for completion.
3. Discuss and come to agreement on recommendations.
4. Continue to meet the requirements of the [statute](#).

Working Definition: Blue Economy

DEFINITION USED IN LEGISLATION (based on World Bank definition):

As used in this resolve, "blue economy" means business sectors that rely on the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic health, improved livelihoods, jobs or ecosystem health.

PROPOSED ADDITION:

In Maine, the Blue Economy consists of economic activity that honors our state's history of sustainably using ocean and coastal resources to nourish communities, foster innovation, and provide a model for generation of wealth from the ocean to create a more prosperous future.

Legislative Report Outline

Overview: Dana O'Brien

- Built to satisfy the legislative requirements
- Data driven → informed by our knowledge + what we learned in consultations + what we learned from past reports
- Focused → to help us quickly align on top opportunities and recommendations

Legislative Report Outline

Overview: Dana O'Brien

- Our knowledge + consultations + past reports = *Very robust, thoughtful, valuable data set*
- That we distilled, processed, debated, and formed into an outline - to help you
- Clear contextual themes, trends, and opportunities
- And thought provoking recommendations

Legislative Report Outline

Walkthrough: Charlie Colgan

- Section by section review
- Q&A
 - Are there areas missing?
 - Are there any red flags?
 - Are there key aspects that you think need to be captured as a new category or sub-bullet?

Lunch Break

Breakout Sessions

Opportunities

1. What are we missing? Or what should we change?
2. How would you prioritize them?

Recommendations

1. What are we missing? Or what should we change?
2. How would you prioritize them?

Reconvene and Discussion

Next Steps

- **Staff Writing of the Report**
- **Send Draft Report to the Task Force:** no later than Jan. 6
- **Meet to Discuss Draft Report:** January 10
 - Remote only meeting – 12:00PM – 2:00PM
- **Deliver Final Report to OBD:** Jan. 27
- **Deliver Final Report to Legislature:** Fri. Jan 31

Thank you.