

STATE OF MAINE BLUE ECONOMY TASK FORCE

September 2024

Bold Text indicates Statute Language/Requirements

PURPOSE OF TASK FORCE:

“...to support Maine's emergence as a center for blue economy innovation and opportunity in the 21st century. 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.”

MEMBERS OF TASK FORCE:

- **Maine Department of Economic & Community Development (staff)**
 - Office of Business Development (Charlotte Mace), Co-Chair
- **Representatives of public and private research institutions:**
 - Aquaculture Research Institute (Deborah Bouchard)
 - Gulf of Maine Research Institute (Blaine Grimes), Co-Chair
 - University of Maine (Jake Ward)
 - Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences (Beth Orcott)
 - University of New England (Charles Tilburg)
 - Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center (Chris Davis)
 - Maine Maritime Academy (Brendyn Sarnacki)
- **Businesses that are innovating in various blue economy sectors:**
 - Blue Trace (Chip Terry)
 - Cianbro (Parker Hadlock)
 - Atlantic Sea Farms (Liz MacDonald)
 - Lyman-Morse (Matthew Graham)
 - ORPC (Nathan Johnson)
 - Eimskip (Tryggvi Mar Magnusson and Gylfi Sigfusson)
 - Hodgdon Yachts (Audrey Hodgdon)
 - Maine Renewable Energy Association (Eliza Donoghue)
 - Windward Development Group (Sean Ireland)
 - Washburn-Doughty (Kristen Danaher)
 - Kennebec River Biosciences (Bill Keleher)
- **Fisheries businesses:**
 - Luke's Lobster (Ben Coniff)
 - Greenhead Lobster (Allison Melvin)
 - Portland Fish Exchange (Robert Vanmeter)
 - Madeleine Point Oyster Farms (Thomas Henninger)
 - Acadian Sea Plants (Alison Feibel)

- **Aquaculture businesses:**
 - Cooke (Mike Szemerda)
 - Kingfish (Tom Sorby)
 - Atlantic Aqua Farms Ltd. (Jeff Auger)
- **Equity investors in blue economy businesses:**
 - Maine Venture Fund (Nina Scheepers)
 - CEI (Keith Bisson)
 - Bold Ocean Ventures (Tim Agnew)
- **President of the Maine Technology Institute or the president's designee:**
 - Brian Whitney
- **Other Participants:**
 - Governor's Office of Policy Innovation & The Future (Scott Kleiman)
 - Maine Aquaculture Association (Sebastian Belle)
 - Maine Coast Fishermen's Association (Ben Martens)
 - Island Institute (Nick Battista)
 - Maine International Trade Center (Dan Berger)
 - New England Ocean Cluster (Chris Cary)

Please note that a few other task force members have pending invitations and will be listed when invitations have been confirmed.