1. The following subcommittee members were in attendance on the call:
   - Chair: Larry Shaw, MMG Insurance
   - Jesse Connolly, Office of Representative Chellie Pingree
   - Bob Dorko, Sappi
   - Susan Hammond, Four Directions
   - Sam May, Maine Harvest Federal Credit Union
   - Alan Perry, Farm Technologies Network
   - Staff and Support Experts:
     - Mary Grace Schley, Maine Department of Economic and Community Development
     - Hannah Carter, UMaine Cooperative Extension
     - Richard Qualey, Intern, University of Maine School of Law
     - Curt Brown, Ready Seafood, Co-Chair – Maine Marine Economy Roadmap Initiative
     - Bill Mook, Mook Sea Farm, Co-Chair – Maine Marine Economy Roadmap Initiative

2. Sector Overview:
   - The value of commercially harvested marine resources was valued at $674 million in 2019, with 72% attributed to the lobster fishery.
   - The full marine living resources economy includes fishing, lobstering, aquaculture, life sciences, and value-added processing.
   - Maine has an opportunity to leverage changing technology, proximity to 150 million consumers in the east coast corridor, and growing global interest in marine resources.

3. Fisheries Sector Pandemic Impacts:
   - The loss of the restaurant market has vaporized seafood sales, but the most severe impact could still be to come, given the normal pickup in landings and sales during summer months.
   - While lobster has continued to move across the Canadian border for processing, a key, longstanding aspect of the supply chain, the capacity has been limited.
   - Value of products decreasing:
     - Groundfish - 63%
     - Lobster - 60%
     - Scallops - 30% (~2.28% in Maine)
   - Elvers - 75%
   - Seaweed - 55%
   - Soft Shell Clams - 55%
   - Oysters - 35%
   - Lost sales, debt service, and increased production costs are the top three concerns of aquaculturists.
   - The value and volume of groundfish being sold at the Portland fish exchange has plummeted by 86 and 87% respectively. There has been an increase of 440% of fish being “scratched” and sold off-auction at a significantly discounted rate.
   - Other economic impacts of note are related to cost of PPE for employees and unavoidable layoffs.

4. Other Considerations:
• Some products are harvested, others are grown. Supply/harvesting of grown products cannot be stalled the same way that wild-caught products can be delayed.
  o Though it is possible to stall the lobster harvest, it comes at a heavy price, and could be very damaging to the industry.
• A lack of three phase power availability on the coast is one of the biggest obstacles for market and capacity expansion.

5. Follow-Up Information Requested:
• Maine fishing industry compared with other regions:
  o Costs?
  o What are we good at?
  o Age of industry participants?
  o Education system/training resources?

6. Stabilization Recommendations from Industry:
• Workforce:
  o Extend and add funds for federal Paycheck Protection Program
• Regulatory:
  o Support the federal delegation push for international trade negotiations.
  o Support DMR’s plan to transition to remote lease hearings for aquaculture sites.
  o Support DMR in exploring options for increasing aquaculture lease/Limited-Purpose Aquaculture License (LPA) space to accommodate unsold crops.
  o DEP must accelerate the permitting of land-based aquaculture farms.
• Infrastructure:
  o The Portland Fish Pier Authority Board – Investment should be made to keep access to Maine wharfs and the fish exchange to keep landings in Maine.
  o Increase funding for Small Harbor Improvement Program.
  o Support construction of cold storage facilities.
  o Recapitalize the Working Waterfront Access Protection Program.
  o Support the installation of 3-phase power to working waterfront.
  o Recapitalize the Maine Technology Asset Fund to evaluate and fund marine industry and other sector projects.
• Stimulus / Investment:
  o Rebate landing fees: disaster relief funding used to reduce costs and overhead.
  o Rebate sector fees: effective way of mitigating the impacts of financial losses to groundfish businesses due to the pandemic, with suggestions like a subsidy for ice.
• Innovation:
  o Immediately support and fund the formation of a Maine seafood marketing entity and emphasize the Maine brand.
  o Establish support, such as through grants, in helping seafood producers pivot to direct to consumer sales.

7. Plan/Path Forward:
• Determine full scope of impact and identify key areas of support.
• Biggest Immediate Ask: more money for the Payroll Protection Program.

8. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 16, 2020, 9:00am