



# What has the MLA done for the industry this year?

## The Year in Review

- Kept members up-to-date on pressing issues through the monthly newsletter
- Supported the lobster zone council process and worked to resolve boundary disputes between zones
- Sponsored the annual v-notch survey, the longest industry-run research project in the Gulf of Maine
- Participated in the Take Reduction Team to draft the new proposed whale plan for right whales
- Participated in the ASMFC lobster management process to monitor progress on the stock assessment and represent Maine on management proposals
- Raised money to fight Outer Cape Cod lawsuit against v-notch protection
- Organized LCMT workshop to generate ideas on conservation measures
- Communicated with Senators Snowe and Collins on important issues including right whales, Magnuson reauthorization and CARA funding
- Testified before Congress on the reauthorization of Magnuson (Sustainable Fisheries Act)
- Organized educational seminars at the Fishermen's Forum
- Worked with NAMA to promote a community approach to fisheries management
- Participated in cooperative research including right whale gear technology, ventless trap survey, data loggers, temperature probe experiment
- Worked with other Gulf of Maine organizations to increase funding for research in the region

## Recent accomplishments

- Secured v-notch protection throughout the range of the resource through the ASMFC process
- Secured maximum gauge protection for Area 1 in the Gulf of Maine (ME, NH & MA) through the ASMFC process
- Presented the results of the MLA's Annual v-notch survey (1982 to present) at the International Lobster Conference
- Formed the *Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation, Inc.* to encourage partnerships between fishermen, scientists and other lobster industry stakeholders to cooperate to gather scientific information on American lobster to improve management decisions, ensure a healthy fishery and sustainable resource.
- MLA Executive Director appointed to serve on Pew Oceans Commission which is engaged in drafting a new national oceans policy.



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