

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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MAINE PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

(in three volumes)

VOLUME II

371
STATE OF MAINE

THIRTEENTH BIENNIAL REPORT

Department of
Sea and Shore Fisheries



BOOTHBAY HARBOR, MAINE

Arthur R. Greenleaf, Comm.

1944

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STATE OF MAINE

BIENNIAL REPORT OF
DEPARTMENT OF SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES

Boothbay Harbor, Maine

To the Honorable Governor and Executive Council:

Sirs:

I have the honor to herewith transmit, in compliance with the law, the report of the Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries, for the two years ending June 30, 1944, together with statistics and other important data.

ARTHUR R. GREENLEAF,
Commissioner

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

EXPENDITURES

* July 1, 1942 to July 1, 1943

Administration	\$12,558.98
Wardens Service	69,357.35
Patrol Boats	4,790.75
Promotion and Publicity	30.23
Operation of Lobster Rearing Station, Boothbay Harbor	14,223.17
Propagation of Shell Fish	4,019.80
	\$104,980.28

July 1, 1943 to July 1, 1944

Administration	\$12,740.61
Wardens Service	81,755.43
Patrol Boats	4,051.50
Operation of Lobster Rearing Station, Boothbay Harbor	15,941.88
Propagation of Shell Fish	4,738.56
	\$119,227.98

FUNDS DEPOSITED IN STATE TREASURY FROM FINES, LICENSES, ETC.

	July 1, 1942 to July 1, 1943	July 1, 1943 to July 1, 1944
Lobster Licenses	\$5,179.00	\$5,882.00
Clam Shippers Licenses	25.00	70.00
Fines	642.27	1,452.11
Sea Moss Licenses		57.50
Clam and Quahaug Cultivation Fees	20.00	20.00
Sale of Clam Rings		1.10
	\$5,866.27	\$7,482.71

DIFFERENT KINDS OF LICENSES ISSUED

	July 1, 1942 to July 1, 1943	July 1, 1943 to July 1, 1944
Lobster Licenses:		
Fishermen.....	3511	4239
Merchants.....	269	300
Servers (Hotels and Restaurants)	583	462
Smackmen or Truckmen (Domestic).....	82	75
Shippers.....	164	146
Foreign Smacks and Trucks	54	80
Lobster Meat Permits.....	30	26
Permits to set Traps on Trawls .	66	117
Sea Moss Licenses.....		115
	4759	5560
	June 1, 1942 to June 1, 1943	June 1, 1943 to June 1, 1944
Clam Licenses:		
Clam Shippers.....	5	14
Clam and Quahaug Cultivation	2	2
	7	16
	Apr. 1, 1942 to Apr. 1, 1943	Apr. 1, 1943 to Apr. 1, 1944
Ground Fishermen's Licenses . .	410	428
	Feb. 1, 1942 to Feb. 1, 1943	Feb. 1, 1943 to Feb. 1, 1944
Clam Worm Licenses	248	181
	July 1, 1942 to July 1, 1943	July 1, 1943 to July 1, 1944
Violations of Sea and Shore Fisheries Laws.....	30	32

Report of Alewife Catch at Damariscotta Mills 1942

Started dipping fish April 21 which was a very early date as most years it is from the 1st to the 10th of May before dipping starts.

The first fish to be sold were to Burnham & Morrill June 27, and at that time the fish house was full with salted fish—about 5,000 barrels. Burnham & Morrill took about 1,500 barrels and with some small orders made a total of approximately 7,000 barrels. It is estimated that 3,000 more barrels could have been taken.

The salted fish packed 2,950 barrels. McCormack & Zatzman packed the fish and shipped them by boat from Damariscotta to Porto Rico.

Contract price was one dollar a packed barrel. Fish sold at the stream for one dollar per barrel. (It requires approximately three barrels to pack two barrels of fish.) The quality of the fish was extra good, and the size was large and even.

Report of Alewife Catch at Damariscotta Mills 1943

1943 was the second year of a two year contract to McCormack & Zatzman, Ltd., St. John, New Brunswick. In this year (1943) the contract was sublet to the Delca Fish Co. of New York. This was the first year that the fish had been processed in any other way except by the salt pack and the smoking method. About one-half of the fish were scaled, cleaned and processed in vinegar, salt and spice and shipped in barrels. They were of very good size and quality, and it is estimated that another thousand barrels could have been taken from the stream had they been able to take care of them.

2230 barrels were sold to McCormack & Zatzman.

3556 bushels were sold at the stream.

Report of Alewife Catch at Nobleboro and Newcastle Fish Stream for the Year 1944.

The fish this year were large and extra good, and in great demand. The run lasted the whole month of May, which is about as usual. They were sold for different uses: some were

pickled in vinegar and salt after being cut and scaled; others were packed whole in salt; others were sold to the local smokers; and some were sold for bait to the lobster fishermen nearby.

The following is a report of the fish and the use that was made of them:

875 bbls. packed in salt and vinegar, equals 1072 bbls. fresh fish

1071 bbls. packed in salt, equals 1381 bbls. fresh fish

58 bbls. fresh fish to smokers

205 bbls. fresh fish for bait to lobster fishermen

1486 bbls. fresh fish to be canned in nearby factories

Total number of barrels taken approximately 6000.

The prices were to the contractor \$1.15 per barrel fresh fish to be cut and processed; \$1.30 per packed barrel in salt, to the contractor; the smokers paid 60c per bushel and bait and other fish sold to be canned at 75c per bushel.

Several loads of live fish were taken at the stream by this department to be liberated in nearby lakes.

SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT
STATE OF MAINE FISHERIES LANDINGS BY COUNTIES FOR 1943

Species	York	Cumberland	Sagadahoc	Lincoln	Knox	Hancock	Washington	Total Pounds	Total Value
Cod—large	50,955	1,951,796	3,500	87,857	421,993	749,993	345,422	3,611,516	\$314,560.34
market	8,320	868,678	.....	59,948	859,183	510,929	101,812	2,408,870	180,743.77
scrod	3,494	153,484	.....	450	269,606	113,986	20,026	561,046	22,782.25
Haddock—large	31,256	436,872	500	20,334	394,684	685,502	80,417	1,649,569	146,249.40
scrod	1,168	53,595	.....	4,887	37,909	27,247	219	125,025	8,126.97
Hake—large	858	430,323	6,500	59,290	1,108,699	4,565,829	485,938	6,657,437	319,695.48
medium	.....	717,995	.....	1,440	16,521	49,599	325	785,880	47,182.24
small	169	46,091	.....	28,424	98,630	94,579	238	268,131	9,100.94
Pollock	308	1,440,890	.....	11,851	362,539	314,782	71,032	2,201,402	106,594.62
Cusk—large	3,523	100,847	3,000	5,149	81,322	170,632	4,819	369,292	28,957.87
small	.....	270	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	270	10.80
Rosefish—Redfish	.....	13,097,462	.....	1,471,475	11,150,155	73,642	.....	25,792,734	933,029.37
Shad	56	4,747	.....	.....	111	356,009	.....	360,923	10,929.58
Flounders—greysole	941	337,343	.....	21,125	261,203	234,558	53,284	908,454	62,846.03
blackbacks	198	1,454	.....	7,843	61,506	631,758	36,708	739,467	39,814.89
lemonsole	.....	16,875	.....	.....	626	7,693	.....	25,194	1,260.64
dabs	46	216,934	.....	42,514	157,089	61,435	395	478,413	20,507.08
Halibut	502	23,566	.....	257	3,508	7,308	3,633	38,774	10,215.74
Wolffish	1,714	42,986	.....	665	51,095	98,387	8,885	203,732	9,489.86
Alewives—bluebacks	492	42,000	262,500	1,075,061	346,752	408,730	1,219,400	3,354,935	28,701.15
Sharks	1,549	45,661	665	261	1,928	5,996	381	56,396	3,185.47
Whiting—round	.....	789,167	.....	115,476	142,928	1,215	59	1,048,845	21,566.10
dressed	.....	133,993	.....	570,699	34,941	803	.....	740,436	31,448.03
Herring	.....	9,324,710	154,000	9,799,230	2,588,110	27,294,750	6,174,060	55,334,860	712,816.35
Butterfish	735	8	.....	85	.....	.....	.....	828	68.10
Smelts	6,308	142,481	19,680	14,762	12,535	10,275	33,361	239,402	42,964.53
Mackerel—large	82,515	107,266	.....	30,924	96,704	41,128	4,188	362,725	33,382.43
medium	15,068	144,975	5,000	72,490	1,400	168	.....	239,101	23,400.79
tinkers	5,456	171,554	.....	24,382	150	132	.....	201,674	10,198.83
Tuna	104,184	43,410	98,572	.....	.....	.....	.....	246,166	33,133.29
Swordfish	.....	5,539	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,539	1,661.70
Sturgeon	.....	283	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	283	40.95
Salmon	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	3.50
Total Fish	319,829	30,893,255	553,917	13,526,834	18,561,827	36,517,065	8,644,602	109,017,329	\$3,214,669.09

SEA AND SHORE FISHERIES

Species	York	Cumberland	Sagadahoc	Lincoln	Knox	Hancock	Washington	Total Pounds	Total Value
Crabs	39,100	500	37,530	97,618	57,667	25,565	257,930	\$9,103.80
Clams	10,102,735	256,750	93,590	889,624	3,271,829	5,878,022	20,492,550	614,053.58
Lobsters—Maine	344,520	2,401,143	481,337	1,194,761	2,628,668	2,682,194	1,735,401	11,468,024	2,933,303.35
Canadian	134,860	.....	.....	14,764	315,110	63,039	527,773	141,260.44
Scallops	15,746½	.....	74	77,401	86,325	47,303½	226,850	104,813.30
Mussels	1,728,755	5,312,195	1,370,787	8,411,737	97,142.90
Quahaugs	444,290	20,800	.....	.....	.....	.....	465,090	16,542.38
Periwinkles	1,200	26,962	40	.....	17,055	45,257	2,485.78
Shrimp	2,110	.....	158,236	131,167	.....	.....	291,513	14,611.37
Sea Eggs—Sea Urchins	7,700	47,033	.....	.....	.....	54,733	1,269.96
Total Shellfish	344,520	13,139,984½	768,287	1,558,186	5,568,037	11,725,320	9,137,172½	42,241,507	\$3,934,586.86
Livers	231,562	.....	6,722	86,795	83,112	18,623	426,814	17,761.37
Blood and Sand Worms	106,250	.....	581,631	.....	77,342	16,874	782,097	165,872.42
Spawn	15,995	.....	.....	753	.....	.....	16,748	1,237.30
Total Miscellaneous	353,807	.....	588,353	87,548	160,454	35,497	1,225,659	184,871.09
TOTALS	664,349	44,387,046½	1,322,204	15,673,373	24,217,412	48,402,839	17,817,271½	152,484,495	\$7,334,127.04

DEPARTMENT STAFF*Commissioner*, ARTHUR R. GREENLEAF*Deputy Commissioner*, ELTON H. LEWIS**OFFICE FORCE**Blanche T. Marshall, *Chief Clerk and Secretary*Joan E. Holmes, *Int. Clerk Stenographer*Julia M. Holmes, *Junior Clerk Stenographer*Louis R. Cates, *Statistician***WARDENS AND SUPERVISORS****First District***Supervisor*: Elwin G. Doughty, PortlandHarley G. Ellis,
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 Capt. Clarence A. Meservey, Capt. Daniel Davis,
 Boothbay Harbor Boothbay Harbor
 Engineer, Clayton A. Simmons,
 Southport

HATCHERY AND MACHINE SHOP

Superintendent, Thomas T. McKinney
Fish Culturist, Victor T. McKinney
Fish Culturist, Sherburn F. Hodgdon
Fish Culturist, Dana Orne
Carpenter, Thurman Alley
Pound Keeper, Frank L. Stevens

STATISTICS

The adoption of our plan for an adequate system for the collection of statistical information in 1939 has put our State foremost among the Coastal States of the Union. The plan is still going forward under the supervision of our Statistician Louis R. Cates.

It is hoped that with the aid of the monthly reports and the continued cooperation of the Federal Government the work can be carried on in detail, and that the information thus derived will be invaluable in the propagation of the fishing industry of our state.

Statistics on the production for all kinds of fishing products is the only check by which basic knowledge and understanding can be intelligently achieved.

The fine cooperation received by our Department from the dealers and fishermen all along the coast is greatly appreciated, and we sincerely hope that this will continue, that our Department will get the most out of its statistical efforts.

Recent survey figures show that the per capita consumption of fish and sea food products is now the highest in the history of the nation. This increase is natural in view of the many shortages of food products brought about by the war. Some look upon this increase as a temporary condition but it is our belief that a large percentage of this consumption will continue after the war, especially the consumer preference for Maine sea food products. Through advertising, promotion and publicity the Sea and Shore Fisheries Department has been stressing, through all mediums of public appeal, the high quality of Maine sea food. This program is already paying dividends in a ready market for our products.

The increased demands of wartime fish consumption brought about many bottlenecks in fuel, fishing equipment and manpower. In breaking these bottlenecks the Sea and Shore Fisheries Department has made available its facilities to all gaining livelihood from the fisheries industry. This aid has

been extended to the industry as a whole and not to an individual or individuals in particular. Under this program the department has been influential in keeping vitally needed supplies flowing to the industry. Readjustments in ceiling prices to give Maine fish producers a better working margin have been brought about through cooperation with federal agencies.

For the future our department plans an expanded program of conservation, propagation and promotion. Conservation will be extended along the lines of research toward the expansion of existing products and the development of new from the untapped sources of the sea. Propagation will be developed with the construction of new lobster hatcheries and experimental areas for the "farming" of shellfish. With the coming of peace, efforts will be renewed to promote all kinds of sports fishing in the coastal waters of the state. From this particular branch of the industry a considerable seasonal business can be developed on all sections of the coast.

Many of the fisheries regulations and innovations sponsored by this department are now being used by other sea food producing states. Our statistical department was one of the first to be organized in the industry. Our three and one-eighth inch lobster law is now standard with other lobster producing states.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Governor and Council for their hearty cooperation at all times in matters concerning this department. I believe the future of the Maine fisheries holds great promise. Its growth in the past few years is a reflection of this coming prosperity. It is my wish that this department continue hand in hand with this progress.

ARTHUR R. GREENLEAF,
Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries