

EXHIBIT 1
PROTECT MAINES FISHING HERITAGE FOUNDATION (PMFHF)
GOTT'S PITT, TREMONT
AUGUST 28, 2021



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1 of 1 X i

From: Trasko, Clarissa <Clarissa.Trasko@maine.gov> or
Sent on: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 9:07:10 PM
To: Loyzim, Melanie <Melanie.Loyzim@maine.gov>
W <Brian.W.Kavanah@maine.gov>
CC: Chase, Beth <Beth.Chase@maine.gov>; Beyer, J
Subject: Cooke Update

Exhibit # 2
PMFHF
"Screen Share"

Hi,

Mike Loughlin, Jim Beyer and Tiffany Leclair conducted an inspection at the Black Island and Black Island South pen sites earlier today. Jennifer Robinson and a couple other Cooke employees participated in the inspection. According to Mike, one of the site managers indicated that the crew was off over the weekend of August 14th and 15th. When the site manager arrived on site on the 16th he could see there were dead fish under the net pens at both sites. He confirmed that there was algae growth on the nets during the die off but did not explicitly confirm that was the cause of the fish deaths. He did indicate the nets had a lot of algae growth and were cleaned immediately after the die off. According to data that was provided to us by Jennifer, the DO's in some of the individual net pens (not sure which ones or how many) was at 6.2 mg/L on Friday August 13th, 5.2 mg/L on Saturday August 14th and 4.9 mg/L on Sunday, August 15th and Monday August 16th. On Tuesday, August 17th the DO level bounced back up to 7.8 mg/L. Mike asked for net cleaning dates and that information is forthcoming but I am guessing the net cleaning occurred prior to the significant increase in DO levels on the 17th. The site manager told Mike that they are typically cleaning the nets every 2 weeks. Once we get the net cleaning dates we will be able to see where they were with the cleaning cycle during the die off. Both of these sites are being harvested so Cooke staff indicated they have not used any drug treatments within the past 30 days or so as fish have to be drug free for at least 30 days prior to hitting the market. These fish are/were adults that have been on these sites for at least 24 months. Cooke staff have no explanation for what caused the die off of fish other than it was likely due to the low DO's. They have no definitive explanation for what caused the low DO's in the affected pens. They reportedly did not see anything out of the ordinary prior to this event and it caught them by surprise. During today's inspection, Mike collected DO/temperature data at locations 35 meters (5, 10 and 25 foot depths) from the outer most pens at both sites and inside (5, 10 and 25 foot depths) a couple of net pens at both sites. DO levels were 8 mg/L and above at all of the locations. There were no fish to collect as the last mortalities were shipped to a compost site (Gotts) in Tremont on Friday, August 27th. Mike has done several inspections at these net pen sites in the past and did not notice anything out of the ordinary, or non-compliant, during today's inspection. We expect to receive some additional data from Cooke in the next few days and Mike will have his inspection report completed no later than October 1st. We will conduct a review of the General Permit language to confirm whether or not there was a compliance issue related to this incident. I am pretty sure there was not but we will check to be sure. If you have questions or would like additional information then please let me know.

RE: asking for one answer today 🟡 2021 -AA fish deaths x

← **Nelson, Marcy** <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>
to me, Meredith, Melissa ▾

Crystal,

As we discussed in our phone call on August 27th, Cooke reached out on August 23rd.

Thanks,

Marcy

From: Protect Maine <protectmaine@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, September 17, 2021 12:21 PM

To: Mendelson, Meredith <Meredith.Mendelson@maine.gov>

Cc: Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>; Macaluso, Melissa <Melissa.Macaluso@maine.gov>

Subject: Re: asking for one answer today

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

She did provide me with information - i just went and rechecked my notes -the date was not there. I would prioritize the black island foaa request ahead of anything else that i have requested.

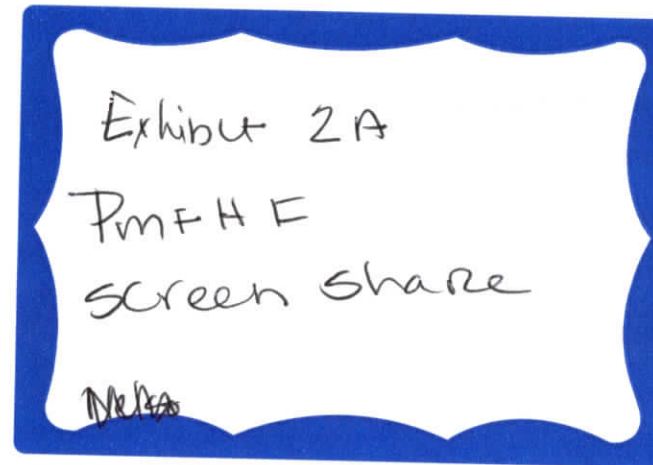
Crystal

Crystal Canney

Executive Director & Spokesperson

Protect Maine's Fishing Heritage Foundation

protectmaine@gmail.com



To: Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>; Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>

Subject: RE: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

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I have nothing on this.

From: Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 7:38 PM

To: Mendelson, Meredith <Meredith.Mendelson@maine.gov>; Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

????

Patrick Keliher

Commissioner

Department of Marine Resources

207.624.6553

www.maine.gov/dmr

From: Ryan <ryan@fvprovidian.net>

Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 6:57:20 PM

To: Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>

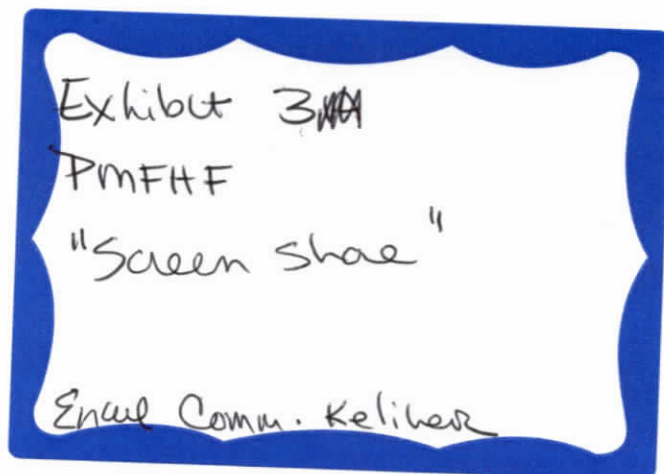
Subject: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Pat, I just wanted to let you know we're heading up to Bar Harbor to help with the salmon die off problem I'm sure you guys will get a bunch of calls about it. It may be helpful if I could be in the loop with whoever coordinates your farming to make sure we have everything in order. RR

Ryan Raber

207.841.7881



Macaluso, Melissa

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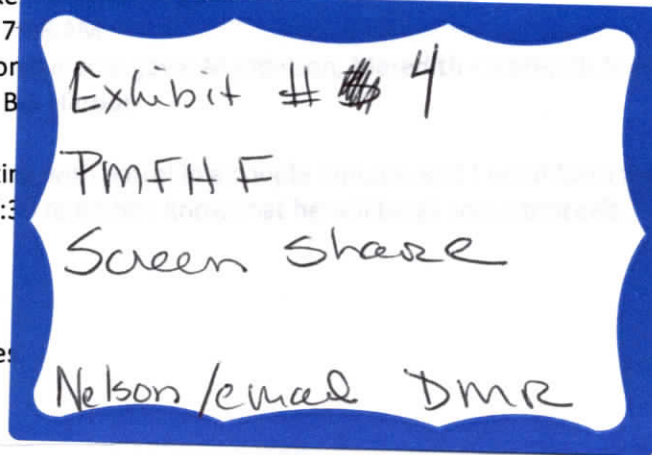
From: Nelson, Marcy
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:00 AM
To: Keliher, Patrick; Mendelson, Meredith
Subject: RE: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

Great, thanks. I am headed out on a boat at 9 am but will have my cell. Jen and I are going to check in later to see how things are going with the seiner. Would it be possible for Patrol to check in during the unloading in Rockland; just to confirm the fish are being pumped from the seiner into a closed container for transport?

From: Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 7:15:31 AM
To: Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>
Subject: Re: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

Thank you Marcy. I have a meeting at 8:30 am of what's happening. I also have a call with Ryan Raber at 8:30 am.

Patrick Keliher
Commissioner
Department of Marine Resources
207.624.6553
www.maine.gov/dmr



From: Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 7:15:31 AM
To: Mendelson, Meredith <Meredith.Mendelson@maine.gov>; Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>
Subject: Re: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

Just got off the phone with Jen. Due to too few crew they had to focus on harvesting and pause net washing. Normally they only need to wash nets every six weeks but they've had heavier fouling. And without the crew to wash they ended up with low O2 and started losing fish. No disease issue. The seiner is heading down to get the fish from Black Island. They will be pumped into the hold of the seiner And transported to Rockland where they will be pumped into a closed container truck to be taken for composting.

I can give you more if you want to have a call. It might be easier.

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From: Mendelson, Meredith <Meredith.Mendelson@maine.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 7:47:28 PM
To: Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>; Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>
Subject: RE: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

I have nothing on this.

From: Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 7:38 PM
To: Mendelson, Meredith <Meredith.Mendelson@maine.gov>; Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Salmon problem in Bar Harbor

Dow, Troy

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From: Dow, Troy
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 9:51 AM
To: Reardon, Thomas F
Subject: RE: Salmon Die Off

Yes, lack of oxygen. They got busy and didn't get their nets pressure washed and the growth on the nets smothered the fish.

From: Reardon, Thomas F <Thomas.F.Reardon@maine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 9:02 AM
To: Dow, Troy <Troy.Dow@maine.gov>
Subject: Re: Salmon Die Off

Do we have any early indication as to what caused it?

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From: Dow, Troy <Troy.Dow@maine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:54:44 AM
To: Dow, Sean <Sean.Dow@maine.gov>; Turcotte, Jeffrey <Jeffrey.Turcotte@maine.gov>; Reardon, Thomas F <Thomas.F.Reardon@maine.gov>
Cc: MacDonald, Colin <Colin.MacDonald@maine.gov>
Subject: FW: Salmon Die Off

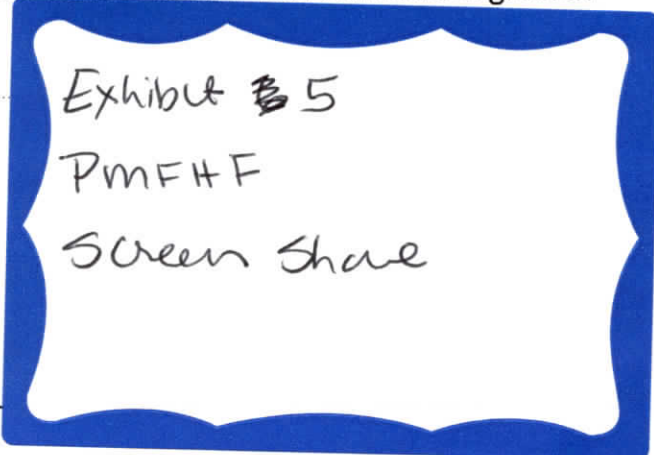
FYI

From: Keliher, Patrick <Patrick.Keliher@maine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:41 AM
To: White, Daniel E <Daniel.E.White@maine.gov>; Dow, Troy <Troy.Dow@maine.gov>
Cc: Carroll, Jay <Jay.Carroll@maine.gov>; Beal, Robert L (DMR) <Robert.L.Beal@maine.gov>
Subject: Salmon Die Off

Gentlemen,

Cooke aquaculture has had a die off at their Black Island lease off MDI. Lieutenant Dow is aware of the situation. Ryan Raber, owner of the Providian, has been asked to transport the dead fish. I've given him the go ahead. At this time it is not clear if the fish will be brought back to Rockland or to Portland. He will let me know what the final destination is and I will send an update. If time allows it might be good to just have an officer go check the offload to make sure they're getting into containers and then hauled off to the appropriate spot – we obviously don't want any bait trucks showing up. I told Ryan that Patrol would be monitoring the situation.

Patrick Keliher
Commissioner



Dow, Troy

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From: Nelson, Marcy
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 7:28 AM
To: Nichols, Jeff; Dow, Troy
Subject: RE: Large fish kill?

No. According to a Cooke representative, like other businesses, they are dealing with a shortage of crew and had to pause net cleaning to focus on harvest. With the warmer water temperatures this year, fouling occurred more quickly, resulting in low oxygen within the pens.

From: Nichols, Jeff <Jeff.Nichols@maine.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 7:25 AM
To: Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>; Dow, Troy <Troy.Dow@maine.gov>
Subject: Re: Large fish kill?

Thanks again. Could there be any repercussions related to stocking density or other issues? I wouldn't volunteer that but the reporter will likely ask. Sorry for the flurry of questions.

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From: Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 7:16:57 AM
To: Nichols, Jeff <Jeff.Nichols@maine.gov>; Dow, Troy <Troy.Dow@maine.gov>
Subject: RE: Large fish kill?

We are monitoring it and Cooke is keeping us apprised but

It isn't a disease event so our role is limited.

From: Nichols, Jeff <Jeff.Nichols@maine.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 7:14 AM
To: Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>; Dow, Troy <Troy.Dow@maine.gov>
Subject: Re: Large fish kill?

Thanks. Do we have any role or responsibility now or should I refer questions to Cooke?

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From: Nelson, Marcy <Marcy.Nelson@maine.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2021 7:12:18 AM
To: Nichols, Jeff <Jeff.Nichols@maine.gov>; Dow, Troy <Troy.Dow@maine.gov>
Subject: RE: Large fish kill?

Cooke had a die-off at Black Island due to low dissolved oxygen. They were working with a seiner out of Portland to remove the dead fish for composting.