

Our Beautiful Bay

Frenchman BayPartners Newsletter

January 2013
Volume 2 No. 1

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**Frenchman Bay
Plan:
We have**

What's Happening with the Frenchman Bay Partners?

We have been busy over the last year creating and revising by-laws, contributing to grant writing efforts to fund on-going bay planning work, collaborating on joint projects around the bay, and creating a Frenchman Bay Atlas.

On February 2nd, 2013, the Frenchman Bay Partners will meet to hear about project updates, vote on an Executive Committee, and talk about the group's future.

Keep track of us on Facebook or on our newly updated website: www.frenchmanbaypartners.org

Partners Pull Together!

Last spring, members of the Regional Shellfish Committee, representatives of College of the Atlantic, and MDIBL researchers got together to do clam surveys in Raccoon Cove in Lamoine. Chris Petersen, a professor at COA, and chair of the Bar Harbor Regional Shellfish Committee demonstrated the proper techniques used to perform surveys and

prioritized four conservation targets for Frenchman Bay.



Mudflats



Diadromous Fishes



Eelgrass

then small groups spread across the flats to collect data. With the help of many hands, the surveys were done in only a few hours and members of the Regional Shellfish Committee gained conservation hours for their efforts. From this survey the RSC has learned that current clam populations are fairly good but there is some concern with regard to clam recruitment and whether there is enough recruitment to sustain the clam resource in future years. More surveys are planned and volunteers are encouraged to come out and join the fun!

Frenchman Bay Atlas Draft 1 is ready for Comment! See the full atlas:

<http://www.coa.edu/frenchmanbayatlas.htm>



Benthic Habitat

Frenchman Bay Steering Committee

John Bennett
Trenton Harbormaster

Antonio Blasi
Hancock Point Kayak Tours,
Hancock Planning Board
member, Hancock County
Commissioner

Jane Disney and George Kidder
Staff Scientists, MDI
Biological Laboratory

Anne Krieg
Planning Consultant

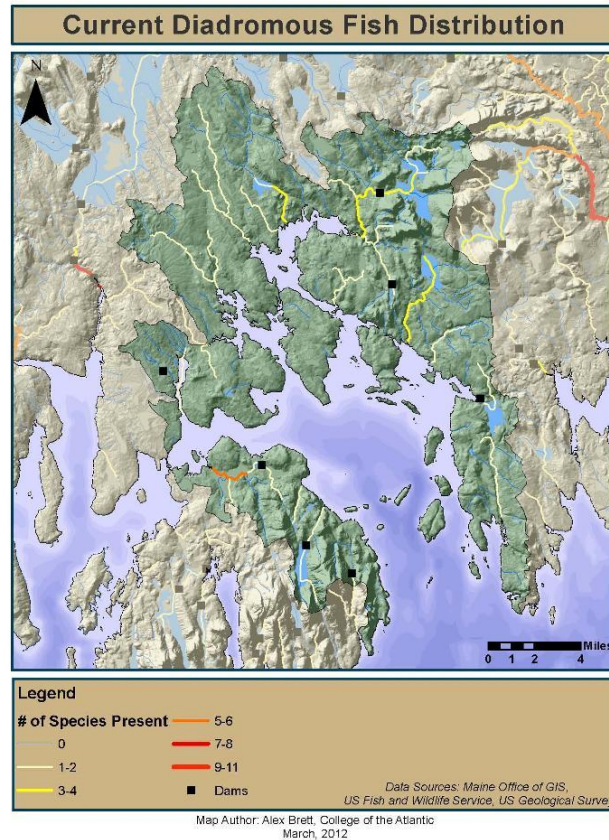
Carol Korty and Bob Pulver
Lamoine Conservation
Commission

Bob DeForrest, Terry Towne, and Billy Helprin
Maine Coast Heritage Trust

Chris Petersen
College of the Atlantic

John Kelly and Abe Miller-Rushing
Acadia National Park

Tom Martin and Jim Fisher
Hancock County Planning
Commission



The Frenchman Bay Partners Visit Municipalities

"We are individuals and individual representatives of organizations, institutions, and municipalities. We are business owners, aquaculturists, fishermen, scientists, teachers, municipal committee members, and storefront property owners. We are all working to ensure a healthy future for Frenchman Bay. We are the Frenchman Bay Partners!" Jane exclaimed with gusto as she presented to the Sorrento, Maine selectboard on behalf of all Frenchman Bay Partners.

Fiona de Koning
Acadia Aqua Farms

Wendy Norden
University of Maine at
Machias

Barbara Arter
Friends of Blue Hill Bay

Joe Porada
Downeast Acadia Sea Farms

Natalie Springuel
Maine Sea Grant

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Adventures](#)

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[Coastal
Kayaking Tours](#)

Sorrento was the fifth town we visited in an effort to garner municipal support and participation in our group. Presentations have now been made in Lamoine, Sullivan, Trenton, Gouldsboro, Hancock, and Bar Harbor. Each town voted unanimously to join the Partners and has since appointed a liaison to the Frenchman Bay Partners group. What great support!

We want to ensure that the needs and interests of all of the surrounding towns are included as we move forward with planning for the future of Frenchman Bay. We will make a short presentation to the Ellsworth City Council on February 11th, 2013. We hope to visit Franklin and Winter Harbor in the near future, too.

Interested towns can designate a liaison and sign on as partners:

<http://www.frenchmanbaypartners.org/partners/sign-up-as-partner/>

Partner Profiles: Kayaking Companies on Frenchman Bay

Among the first business partners to sign up on the Frenchman Bay Partners website were: Acadia 1 Watersports, Aquaterra Adventures, and Hancock Point Kayak Tours and Coastal Kayaking.

Acadia 1 Watersports is a kayaking outfit located in Lamoine, Maine and has been a Master Maine Guide Service since 1985. The company is located one mile from Lamoine Beach which is centrally located for dozens of paddling adventures. Owner Shaun Donovan is interested in working with other partners on a "Saltwater Discovery Trail" to highlight important features of the bay that both reflect the

For more information
about
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Partners,
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ecologic and economic importance of bay resources.

Aquaterra Adventures is located on the water in down town Bar Harbor. This sea kayak company provides sea kayaking adventure for individuals or groups, as well as a variety of instructional programs. Owner David Legere educates kayaking clients about the importance of eelgrass and other bay habitats and keeps extensive trip logs that may help to inform the bay planning process.

Hancock Point Kayak Tours is a sea kayak tour company owned and operated by Antonio Blasi who personally guides all of the trips. Antonio is a member of the Frenchman Bay Partners steering committee, and has committed to the mission and vision of the organization.

Coastal Kayaking has been leading sea kayak tours on Mount Desert Island

for over 30 years. They offer full or half day tours, sunset tours, and a variety of other tours for small groups. Owner Glenn Tucker has made his kayaks available for eelgrass mapping around the bay.

To become a partner, visit our website:
www.frenchmanbaypartners.org