

# The Bluefin Benefit



## Why you should consider supporting the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza Tuna Tournament

By hosting a friendly competition between the elite tuna captains of Maine and beyond, the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza provides a significant socio-economic benefit to our local communities.

Fishing alone contributes over \$180,000 to the local economy.

Average trip cost (according to NOAA data): \$823

(includes ice, food, bait, fuel, captain/crew)

\* 40 boats x 3 trips (days) x \$823 = \$98,760

Average price for bluefin \$6.86/pound

\* An average landing of 20 fish totaling 9,694 lbs x \$6.86/lb. = \$66,500.84

Tournament registration fee: 40 boats x \$400 = \$16,000

Total = \$181,260.84

This doesn't include additional expenditures like transient slip fees, dining and lodging procured by fishermen, tournament staff and the multitude of local and out-of-state visitors who come to participate in pre and post tournament events or to watch fish being landed.

Additional Tournament expenses with local businesses

Apparel and printing: = \$6,842

Legal, accounting and insurance fees: = \$2,956

Trophies: = \$678

Total = \$10,476

The focus of Maine's current economic development plan is attracting people and adding skills and talent to a workforce that is shrinking every year. There are 185,000 Mainers who have some college, but no degree, who could put themselves in a position for higher earnings if they could get access to the right program. The state's community college system is serving that need for thousands of Mainers, but its most sought-after programs too often have to turn potential students away. Helping more workers acquire the skills and credentials would allow them to command more in the job market.

Proceeds from our 2020 event included scholarships for students in the Maine Community College System's trades and marine sciences programs.

14 scholarships x \$1,000 per scholarship = \$14,000

Establishment of a scholarship endowment = \$10,000

Support for intern at Gulf of Maine Research Institute = \$1,000

Total = \$25,000

The grand total is difficult to quantify, especially as it also includes collection of important biological information on bluefin tuna that allows scientists and managers to make more informed decisions in the responsible management of our sustainable artisan fishery.

The Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza is an independent, non-profit, 501(c)(3) exempt charitable organization. All your donations are tax deductible, and greatly appreciated.