

**Fifth Annual**

**CASCO BAY  
BLUEFIN  
BONANZA**

**Tuna Tournament**

**July 29-August 4, 2023**

**Gulf of Maine, U.S.A.**

**[www.bluefinbonanza.org](http://www.bluefinbonanza.org)**



Dedicated in Memory of  
**Capt. Lindsay Withers**





## Here We Go Again

Every year, as we learn what works and what doesn't and what our fishermen want, we try to make changes and improvements. This year is no exception, though it is exceptional. To meet the growing demand for entry, we've increased our registration cap to allow 80 boats to compete. We were told we're too cheap so we raised the entry fee and in accordance, the prize payouts. People always want more fishing days so we altered our schedule to allow 4 full days. We'll still have our Downeast lobster bake dinner and auction, but this year it will culminate with awards on the same evening so everyone can congratulate our successful anglers. The rest is up to the weather gods, the fish and the vagaries of NMFS regulations, over which we have no control. We wish you all fair seas, tight lines and a safe return to port.



Jordan Caron  
Kurt Christensen  
Sue Frigon  
Walt Golet  
Jane Humphrey

Bob Humphrey  
Helen Humphrey  
Brian Jones  
Sandy Jones

Kevin Lord  
Jessica Metayer  
Nick Metayer  
Tom Pappas  
Heather Ray

William Ray  
Shawn Tibbetts  
Billy Tranter  
Merri-Lee West



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207-358-7705 | Fax: 207-358-7760  
Mon-Fri 7am-4pm



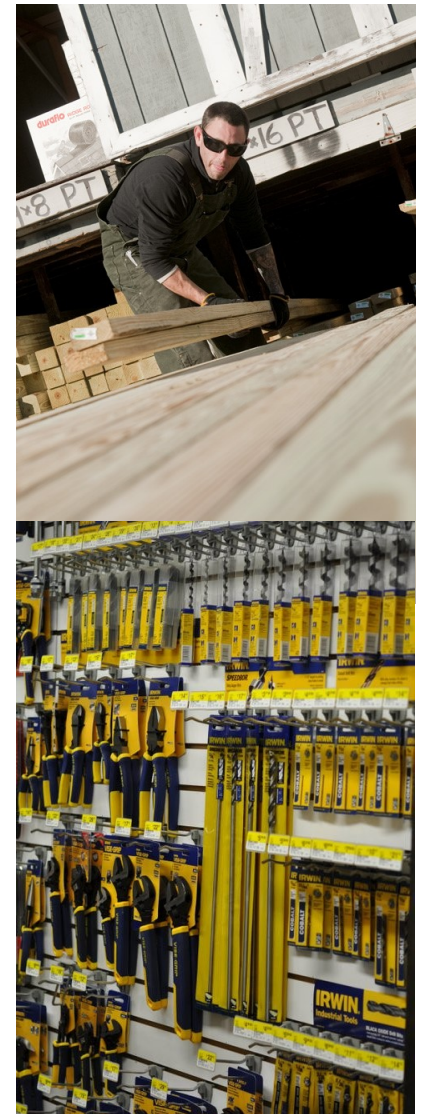
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# Education - Scholarships

The first pillar in our mission, and where it all began for us is education. The Bluefin Bonanza provides a friendly competition among New England's top tuna captains but our overall goal is building a better, stronger community and one way we do that is through scholarships.

In 2022, we gifted \$41,000 to the **Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges**. This will provide 16 \$1,000 scholarships to students enrolled in trades and marine sciences programs at Maine's community colleges. The remainder will increase our endowment to ensure scholarships like this will always be available, so we can provide more skilled workers to our local businesses.

\*\*\*

*"This donation comes at a time of financial uncertainty for me and my family as I continue to pursue my goal of a college degree full time, while also working thirty-plus hours each week to maintain the level of financial stability we require."*

—Cameron Q., Electromechanical Technology  
Central Maine Community College



We're also working with businesses to get students exposure to the work place, and with schools to get businesses into the classrooms and labs to help build stronger relationships.

## CASCO BAY BLUEFIN BONANZA

### 2022-2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

#### Central Maine Community College

Thuan Ha, Building Construction Technology- Job Site

Kristin Higgs, Electromechanical Technology

Cameron Quintal, Electromechanical Technology

#### Eastern Maine Community College

Nathanial Robinson, Diesel, Truck, & Heavy Equipment

Kendra Merrill, Diesel, Truck, & Heavy Equipment

#### Kennebec Valley Community College

Caleb Chaverie, Electrical

Patrick Hebert, Electrical

#### Northern Maine Community College

Caleb Hersey-Pelletier, Diesel Hydraulics

Hudson Labbe, Electrical Construction and Maintenance

#### Southern Maine Community College

Spencer Decker, Marine Science

Amy Doiron, Marine Science

Sarah Hall, Liberal Studies-Science Concentration

Reem Mouse, Liberal Studies-Science Concentration

#### Washington County Community College

Eric Van Dine, Residential/Commercial Electricity

Jerry Wallace, Heating Program

#### York County Community College

Caleb Ackerman, Precision Machining Technology

Logan Archer, Electrician Technology Certificate





## Celebrate in Style

Batson River Brewing and Distilling has teamed up with the Bluefin Bonanza to create another custom brew for all you tuna a-fish-ianados.

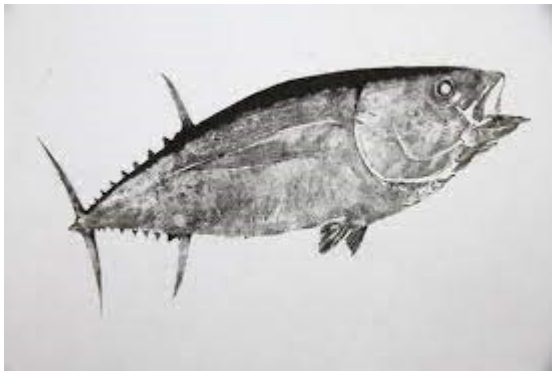
Check it out at all four Batson locations in Portland, Biddeford, Kennebunk and Wells.

A portion of the proceeds from every ale poured goes toward the Bluefin Bonanza.



## Portland - Biddeford - Kennebunk - Wells

### *The Bluefin Initiative*



The overriding objective of the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza is giving back to our community, and not just the community colleges. We also want to help the fishermen and the seafood industry whose participation is so important to meeting our objectives.

When the pandemic struck, it created economic hardships for many, including Maine's commercial tuna fleet. After years of sacrifice and conservative management and harvest, the resource turned a huge corner and was finally recovering. Government agencies and non-profit conservation groups alike declared the fishery as sustainable and growing. Groundfishermen and lobstermen were able to improvise by selling directly to consumers, but tuna must be handled differently and the tuna market has depended primarily on

major population centers and overseas exports, all of which were shut down.

We responded by establishing the **Bluefin Initiative**, creating and promoting local markets and educating local consumers about our sustainable, artisan fishery. The concept quickly caught on and several companies were able to develop markets, buying from Maine fishermen and selling to local consumers. In the short term, we helped fishermen and their families who rely on this resource for their livelihood. In the long term, we could reduce our dependency on out of state and overseas markets, keeping money in our local economy.

In 2023 we joined in a new venture spearheaded by Postelsia, a division of Where Food Comes From, Inc. We are working with them, GMRI and others to develop a Smart Catch Certified Fishery program that will be science-based and objective, unlike existing west coast programs. Our hope is that by educating consumers and bridging the gap between fishermen and chefs we can build even stronger, more lucrative local markets.





# Schedule of Events

## Saturday, July 29

### Youth Day - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

A day of hands-on fun activities including sample collection by staff from the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Gyo-taku fish printing with Nate Garrett, a kids crab tournament followed by a crab derby race with lots of prizes.

### Captain's Meeting - 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

#### 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Social Hour

Enjoy light sliders and sides from Fat Kid Culinary and craft beer from Batson River Brewing and Distilling while visiting with friends and telling lies.

#### 5:00 p.m. Captain's Check-in and Meeting (Mandatory)

Captains arrive, check-in and receive their Tournament package, apparel and a Captain's bucket. Each boat must have a representative present for a review of the rules and a brief Q&A period.

## Sunday, July 30

### Fishing Begins - 12:01 a.m.

Scales open 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Lines in the water and anglers may fish continuously through Monday

## Monday, July 31

Fishing continues - Scales open 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

## Wednesday, August 2

Fishing Resumes 12:01 a.m. - Scales open 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

## Thursday, August 3

Fishing Continues - Scales open 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

## Friday, August 4

### Bluefin Benefit Dinner/Auction/Awards

#### 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Social Hour

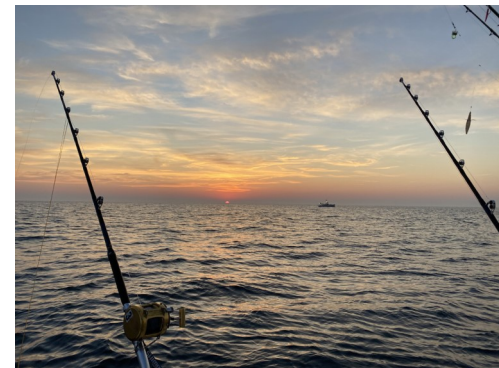
Enjoy craft beer and locally distilled spirits while you visit with sponsors, vendors and friends, enter raffles and bid on silent auction items.

#### 5:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner Sponsored by Red Claw

Dig in to a traditional Maine lobster dinner hosted by our sponsors from Red Claw. While you eat, we'll be pulling Bucket Raffles and drawings - must be present to win. Each tournament registrant will receive two meal tickets. Additional tickets are \$25.

#### 6:00 p.m. Live and Silent Auctions - Awards

Here's your chance to pick up some cool items while helping a great cause.







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Somewhere inside of everyone, there's an inner "Fat Kid" still perched in front of the TV on a Saturday morning, watching cartoons with their imagination running wild. This kid doesn't care about rules or food boundaries. This kid only knows that he is hungry and he is curious. From his untamed fever dreams, this kid imagines dynamic menus with flavors that remind you of what it means to release your inner Fat Kid.

Who are we?

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# YOUTH DAY

## Saturday, July 29, 10 - 2

The Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza, Bass Pro Shops - Cabela's and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute are partnering to provide a day of activities for the youngsters, and grown-ups.

### Fish Science - 10:00 a.m. - Noon



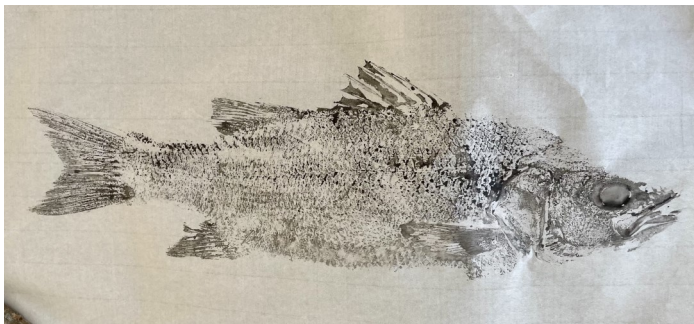
Join Dr. Walt Golet and his team of interns from the **University of Maine School of Marine Sciences** and the **Gulf of Maine Research Institute** as they provide hands-

on demonstrations on how they collect biological samples for research. Activities will include guessing the age of bluefin, identifying what they eat (Yes, you will get to pull out what's in their stomach.) and using some data to guess which side of the Atlantic (east or west) the bluefin tuna came from.

### Hands-On Gyotaku Fish Printing

11: a.m. - Noon

Gyotaku artist Nate Garrett will be on hand demonstrating the Japanese art of Gyotaku fish printing.



### Crab Tournament 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Down on the docks, we'll hold the inaugural Green Crab Bonanza where kids can compete to catch invasive green crabs. Prizes for the biggest, the most and the most unusual.



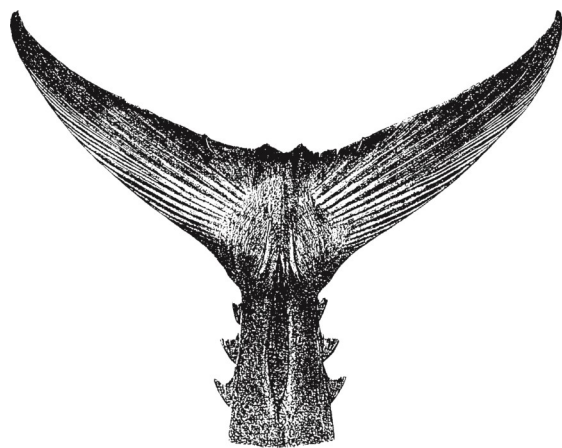
### Crab Derby Races 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.



Derby contestants will then pick their fastest crab and enter it into the crab races for still more prizes.

**All activities are free and open to the public. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and should have a life jacket.** To sign up for the Crab Derby please send us an email at [bluefinbonanza@gmail.com](mailto:bluefinbonanza@gmail.com)





**NATE GARRETT**

Original Gyotaku Artwork

South Portland, Maine

207.650.5777

[www.BigFishGyotaku.com](http://www.BigFishGyotaku.com)



**Special thanks to Taylor Richardson and the Richardson Family for their ongoing support of the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza**



**Special thanks to Shawn Moore and the Katelyn A. for your continued support of the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza.**



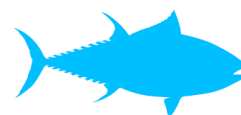
We also provide internships for 5 students to work at the University of Maine's Pelagic Fisheries Lab at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. This gives them an opportunity to gain real field experience that will better prepare them for a career in marine sciences.



*"Working unpaid internships is financially impossible for many college students, as it was for me. However, those experiences are essential to success in this field. Being awarded a Bluefin Bonanza student scholarship made it financially possible for me to have a*

*meaningful and unique fisheries related internship opportunity that served as a catalyst toward my first post-grad research position. I am very excited to see the Bluefin Bonanza continue to provide support to students in our community."*

- Isabelle See




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# 2022



# Awards



**First Place: Capt. Pete Speeches, Backstabber, 628 lbs., 102"**



**Second Place: Capt. Rusty Parmenter, Patricia Ann, 622 lbs., 100.25"**



**Third Place: Capt. Kurt Christensen, Molly Jane, 621 lbs., 104.5"**



**Fourth Place: Capt. Steven Morse, Reel Estate, 592 lbs., 101.75"**



**Fifth Place: Capt. Scott Smith, Bali Hai, 576.5 lbs., 102"**



**Greatest Cumulative Weight: Capt. Kurt Christensen, Molly Jane, 621 lbs, 465 lbs, 461 lbs., = 1,547 lbs**

## 2023 Tournament Awards

First Place - \$25,000

Second Place - \$12,500

Third Place - \$6,000

Fourth Place - \$3,000

Fifth Place - \$1,500

Cumulative weight - \$1,000

Largest Fish Daily - \$1,000



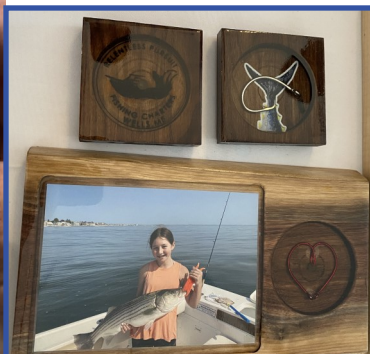




Located in the heart of the Atlantic Flyway, the New England coast represents a diverse wealth of migration habitats across six states. Each spring and fall, millions of waterfowl use saltwater marshes, coastal estuaries and freshwater wetland complexes. The Atlantic coast hosts the greatest waterfowl diversity in the entire Atlantic Flyway, from eiders to Canada geese to American black ducks. The primary conservation needs are restoration and protection of fresh water coastal and inland wetland habitats. Secondary to that are myriad nesting habitats, including islands for sea duck nesting. Ducks Unlimited's staff and volunteers in New England support DU's Completing the Cycle Initiative. This initiative focuses on conserving wetlands in critical areas that offer the best opportunities for a sustainable future for waterfowl, as well as cleaner water. The Completing the Cycle Initiative area is home to more than just waterfowl and wetlands. The region holds vast human, political and philanthropic capital, accounting for 21 percent of the U.S. population and 12 percent of Ducks Unlimited members nationwide. The waterfowling tradition is strong within the region, which is home to more than 10 percent of America's active waterfowl hunters and DU's mission-critical Major Sponsors



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[welchwoodcraft207@gmail.com](mailto:welchwoodcraft207@gmail.com)

(207) 485-7687



# LIVE AUCTION ITEMS

**Reel Easy Trident Custom Rod** - The Trident 80/130 is a 130 rod tapered to an 80 tip that was designed specifically for and by bluefin tuna fisherman of New England. Its light tip ensures your hookup with less pulled hooks and tackle failure than the stiffer 130 rods on the market. Then, the forgiving blank helps you battle wild headshakes or a rough sea, keeping the rod loaded and the line tight. The Trident puts you in control of your fish, not the other way around. (\$1,200)



**Big Fish Gyotaku & Nature Prints** - This one of a kind Gyotaku print by Nate Garrett depicts the official art of the 2023 Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza. Nate is a commissioned & licensed artist and a sought-after presenter and instructor. His work is grounded in the tradition of Gyo (fish) taku (to press or rub), a Japanese method of fish printing in which fish are used as a printing plate. (\$1,000)

**Two-hour Lobster Tour and Dinner for 6** - Enjoy a 2-hour lobster or bay tour for 6 people on Blue Hill Bay with author and fisherman **Linda Greenlaw**, then return to shore for a lobster dinner at Perry's Lobster Shack in Surry. (\$2,000)



**Rifle of the Year Weatherby Mark V 6.5 WBY** – Weatherby is renowned for their top of the line rifles, craftsmanship, innovation and quality. This Weatherby Mark V is chambered in their custom 6.5 300 Weatherby. It includes a Leupold VX freedom 4-12x40 optic mounted with rings and bases. Barrel and action come in coyote tan cerakote on top of the custom hand painted polymer stock. Also includes two boxes of Weatherby ammo. (\$2,700)



## LINDA GREENLAW

## CHARTERS

Commercial fishing boat captain made famous in *The Perfect Storm* and best-selling author Linda Greenlaw invites you to book a private, custom charter, or a single seat on one of our special event tours. Enjoy the breathtaking views of Maine's rugged coastline upon one of our four vessels with your family and friends. When cruising with Linda Greenlaw Charters, the possibilities are endless. And so is the fun!

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# LIVE AUCTION ITEMS continued



**Mustang Survival Suit** - Designed for use in commercial operations, the new Immersion Suit from Mustang Survival is the ideal ship abandonment suit for workboats, transport vessels, drilling rigs, supply ships, steamships and commercial fishermen. Also suitable for the sailing community. comes with a USCG approved ACR light and color coded storage bag. (\$425)



**Big Fish Gyo-taku & Nature Prints** - This one of a kind Gyo-taku print by Nate Garrett depicts an Atlantic striped bass. Nate is a commissioned & licensed artist and a soughtafter presenter and instructor. His work is grounded in the tradition of Gyo (fish) taku (to press or rub), a Japanese method of fish printing in which fish are used as a printing plate. (\$1,000)



**SIG P322** - The new P322 was completely designed and built by SIG SAUER in New Hampshire and is loaded with premium features including an optic-ready removable rear sight plate, a suppressor ready threaded barrel adapter, ambidextrous controls, interchangeable flat and curved triggers, and fiber optic front and rear sights. The new P322 is the highest capacity, most advanced 22 pistol in its class.



**Adirondack Chairs** - Sit back, relax and enjoy the comfort of a custom-made, exclusive Casco Bay Bonanza Adirondack chair made and provided by CMCC Building Construction Technology. (\$250 ea.)



**Guided Bear Hunt** - Fully Guided Bear hunt for the 2024 season including meals, lodging, local transportation and skinning and quartering of your bear. (\$2,495)



**Cabela's 4,000W Portable Generator** - This 4,000W portable power generator delivers a convenient source of power for all your outdoor activities and more. 5,000W starting power and 4,000W of running power. Runs up to 14 hours at 50% load. Sufficient power to run a 15,000-BTU RV air conditioner. Reliable recoil start with Cold Start Technology. Intelligauge monitoring of voltage, frequency, and operating hours. (\$499) [www.cabelas.com](http://www.cabelas.com)





# SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

**Fish Fry Package** - Includes Cabela's 6.5 QT. Fryer Kit, Batter Box, oil and batter.

**Jerky Package** - Includes Cabela's Jerky Blaster, racks and 3 jerky seasoning kits.

**Vac Sealer Package** - Includes Cabela's Pro Series Vacuum Sealer, 2 packages of bag rolls.

**Ammo** - Includes 9mm Luger, 5.56 mm and 22 Long Rifle.

**Candy** - A wide selection of Uncle Buck's candy from Cabela's.

**Cabela's Intensity HD Gen 2 10 x 42 Binoculars** - Premium HD extra-low-dispersion (ED) glass delivers time-counting clarity you can depend on. Phase- and silver-coated roof prisms enhance resolution for true-to-life colors. Lenses come fully multicoated with advanced wide-band coating technology, and multiple anti-reflective lens coatings increase light transmission for bright images, even in hazy or low-light conditions.

**Cabela's Polar Cap® Equalizer 25-Quart Cooler** - Featuring a top-notch insulation-to-weight ratio, efficient, all-around foam insulation, a freezer-grade gasket, molded padlock tabs, rubberized T-handle latches, elevated, non-skid feet and more.

## 7TV Molly Jane Charters

Join us on the Molly Jane for the ultimate tuna fishing experience off the coast of Maine.

Our goal is to share this incredible experience with others. These trips can be hands-on and informational as you participate in everything aboard. Or, you can sit back and enjoy just being out to sea; the choice is yours.

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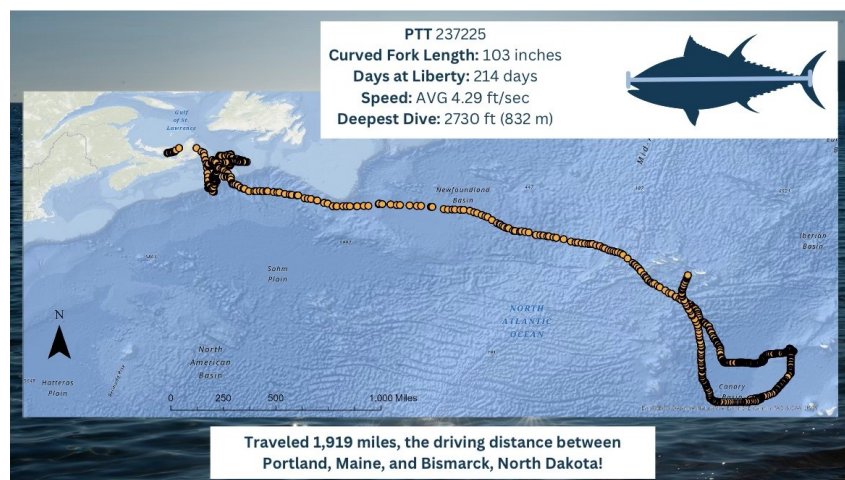


The second pillar of our mission is conservation, the definition of which is “wise use.” Last year we provided another \$40,000 to our fund with the **University of Maine Foundation** to support ongoing research by Dr. Walt Gullet and his staff at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. This is a critical time as bluefin stocks are finally showing signs of recovery thanks to careful and conservative management. In addition to ongoing electronic tagging, which tracks movement and migration patterns, we’re also supporting food habits analysis and ground-breaking genetics work. All this work is designed to ensure stocks are not overexploited and the resource remains sustainable and available for us to harvest.

\*\*\*

*“The College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture is grateful for the generous donation from the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza organization. Their gift will support critical research and education associated with highly migratory species important to coastal Maine communities, specifically Atlantic bluefin tuna. Through this donation, UMaine undergraduate internships, electronic tagging, and biological monitoring programs for Atlantic bluefin tuna will help ensure the long-term viability of this species through development of effective conservation and management approaches.”*

- Diane Rowland, Dean of the University of Maine College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture, School of Marine



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# SILENT AUCTION ITEMS continued

**L.T. Marine 10' Two-Piece Blue Fish Scale Commercial Harpoon** - This two-piece cockpit harpoon features a rough textured non slip grip, hard coat anodized finish, stainless steel eye-bolt for rigging, traditional bronze tuna dart rigged with Dyneema rope, a carrying/storage bag and Lifetime Warranty against material and workmanship defects. (\$340)



**Two-day Cabin Rental** - Spend a couple days in the wilds of Maine snowmobiling, ice fishing or cross-country skiing, then return to a cozy cabin and visit the restaurant and bar at Lake Parlin Lodge and Cabins. (\$450)



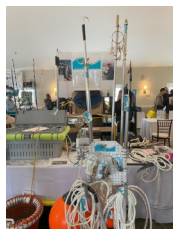
**Green-wings Across the Bow** - This handsome print by 2023 DU Artist of the Year Richard Clifton depicts a group of green-winged teal preparing to land. Richard Clifton is one of the country's most notable waterfowl artists with numerous duck stamp competition wins. The canvas features an Artist of the Year title plate affixed to the frame Image size: 28"x 22 1/4" (\$)



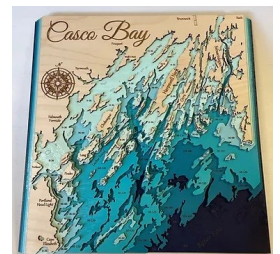
**7 Cubic Yards of Gravel**—stone or any product manufactured by Gorham Sand and Gravel including delivery within York or Cumberland County (\$400)



**End Game Gear** - 8" Flying Gaff, 7:9" Commercial Cockpit Harpoon, Rigged Cockpit Dart Line and Safety Lines, Anchor Ball Retrieval System and ring, One-hand Tail Rope, (3) Swim Sticks, Bait Saver Basket



**3-D Casco Bay Chart** - Handmade art work From Wooden Alchemy (\$250)



**RYOBI Combo Kit** - RYOBI introduces the 18V ONE+ 6-Tool Combo Kit with 1/2 in. Drill/Driver, 1/4 in. Impact Driver, Reciprocating Saw, 5-1/2 in. Circular Saw, Multi-Tool, LED Light, Batteries, Charger, and Bag. (\$200)

**Tight Box** - This beautiful rod storage rack was hand-made by Welch's Woodcraft for the Bluefin Bonanza. Five extra large rod-holders will take up to a size 6 - 130 class rod butt. Handsomely decorated with stainless cleats and tuna art and fitted with casters for easy movement. (\$300)





# More Conservation

Here's a closer look at some of the projects we're funding.

## GENETICS FOR GIANTS

AN INDUSTRY PROJECT FOR ATLANTIC BLUEFIN SUSTAINABILITY



### WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

1. The length of the fish (measuring tape provided in kit). If the fish can't be brought aboard, an estimation will do!
2. A small (smaller than a tack) finclip from any one of the finlets (scissors provided in kit).
3. Place the finclip into the provide vial (see white box in kit), cap it, and give it a good shake to make sure the sample is covered in the liquid preservative.
4. Please match the vial number with the number written on the provided sheet and record the date, your location, the temperature of the water, and length of the fish.
5. Disinfect scissors (alcohol wipes provided in kit) and let us know when all of your vials are filled!

### WHAT IS CLOSE-KIN MARK RECAPTURE (CKMR)?

CKMR is a new technique used to estimate the ratio of genetically matched fish to larvae (i.e. parent-offspring pairs or POPs). In other words, we are using DNA to map out the family tree of ABFT in the western Atlantic!

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Using CKMR we can estimate where the fish came from (Western or Eastern stock), the absolute population abundance, and the future productivity of the stock. This information will provide managers with more accurate and real-time data to sustainably manage the Atlantic bluefin fishery!



## ADOPT A TUNA

The Gulf of Maine Research Institute is doing some cutting edge research tagging and tracking bluefin tuna. You can help support their work, learn a lot more about these fascinating fish and follow the travels of a specific tuna tagged right here in the Gulf of Maine through our symbolic adoption program. To learn more, go to our website at [www.bluefinbonanza.org](http://www.bluefinbonanza.org) and click on the tuna tail icon.

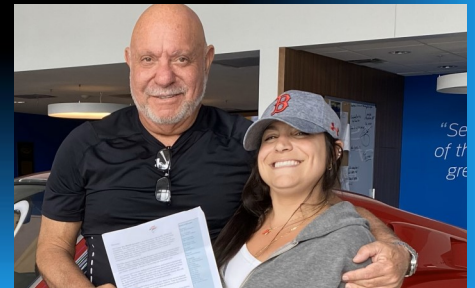


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**1 Dozen Live Lobsters** - Winning bidder will receive a gift certificate for a dozen lobsters from our sponsors at Free Range Fish and Lobster. (market price)



**L.T. Marine** - Commercial Tuna Swim Hook, Swivel Rod Holders, Giant Tuna Release Hook.



**Tunacious Gear** - This package from Tunacious Offshore Products includes bronze Tunacious darts, plastic-coated stainless cable reel leashes and balloon sliders (\$200)

**Tuna Jigs** - From Al Gag's Lures — **Penn Spinfishing combos** — **Striper Fishing Tackle Boxes**



**Craftsman Cordless Tools** - Includes batteries and charger.



**Outdoor Gear** - There will be lots of great items from our sponsors at Bass Pro Shops - Cabela's for you to bid on.

**Sunset Cruise** - Sunset cruise for up to 4 passengers around Bailey Island with Capt. Tyler McLaughlin aboard the F/V Pinwheel—June early July 2024. (\$500)



**And much, much more...**

### Gift Certificates

Kittery Trading Post - \$50 - (5)  
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 Skillins' - \$50 (2)  
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 Pat's Pizza in Scarborough \$50  
 Luke's Lobster \$100



Dolphin Marina \$100  
 Life Raft Services \$200  
 Saltwater Grill \$  
 Schooner Alert \$100  
 Fliprocks \$100  
 Antonia's \$100

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SHIP  
YARD**



**PORTLAND  
YACHT  
SERVICES**

# Guidelines for Landing Your Fish

While you're welcome to fish wherever you like, all fish to be entered must be brought to the official tournament weigh station at Spring Point Marina during open scale hours.

In order to be eligible, heads and tails **must** remain attached. You are also advised to bring innards and gill plates as they are included in total weight.

**Please notify weighmasters by phone or VHF channel 8 as soon as a fish is landed, and provide an ETA.**

## Weighmasters

Shawn Tibbetts - 207 - 502 - 0368

Brian Jones Steve Selleck Walt Golet Merri-Lee West

**Scale Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.**

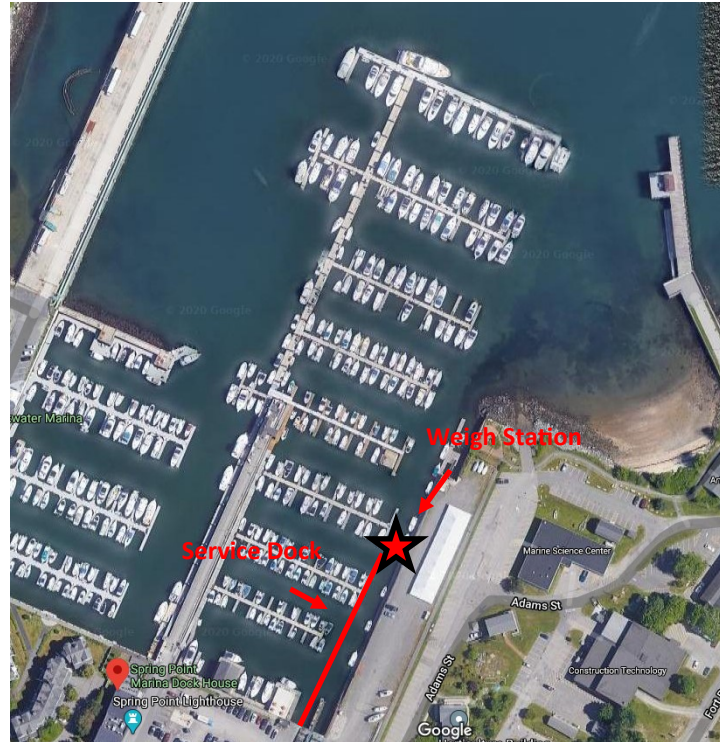
Please do not contact weighmasters outside of scale hours.

Upon arrival, tie up to the service dock at Spring Point Marina and notify weighmaster. All fish will be weighed in order of arrival.

Caution is advised when nearing weigh station as the channel is very narrow and shallow at low tide.

Once they are done and you have signed your weight slip, the fish is yours to do with as you please. Buyers will be onsite to accept fish.

**Important:** We will be making regular broadcasts of tournament standings on VHF Channel 8. **If you land your fish at another location because it will not place, we ask that you still report your fish to the tournament weighmaster. When participating in the tournament, you are fishing under our permit, and NOAA Fisheries requires that we report all fish caught by participants.**



Remember, your fish represents a valuable source of information to the scientific community, which is trying to learn more about the population movements and status of the resource we value so dearly. Scientists will be on hand to collect biological samples from all fish landed.

**FMI, visit the Gulf of Maine Research Institute at:**

<https://www.gmri.org>

**Special thanks to all the folks at Port Harbor Marine for your support of our event.**



WWW.PORTHARBORMARINE.COM



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# The Hometown Foundation, Inc.

Established in 2002 the Hometown Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit charitable organization committed to supporting those in need.

The Foundation's focus and commitment center around five key program areas:



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EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL



INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL  
DISABILITIES OR IN NEED



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MILITARY

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[WWW.HOMETOWNFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.HOMETOWNFOUNDATION.ORG)





*"I look forward to sharing my passion and knowledge for fishing with you and sending you home with some nice fish in your cooler!"*

• Capt. Jordan Caron

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Special thanks to Rev. Dr. AbbyLynn Haskell of Broad Reach Ministries for blessing our fleet, our meal and our event.



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The Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza would like to offer special thanks  
to the local lobstermen who donate all the lobsters for our event each year.



# RULES

## IMPORTANT

Federal regulations require that all vessels participating in an HMS tournament must report all HMS caught during the tournament, whether landed or released. Please report any and all HMS that are caught and released to the weighmaster or a tournament official.

## General Compliance

Tournament participants are responsible for obtaining and becoming familiar with tournament rules and all applicable State and Federal laws, rules and regulations.

All Tournament participants must be in full legal compliance with Maine Department of Marine Resources and NOAA/ National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regulations and must possess any and all state and federal licenses and permits required by these agencies.

All entrants must be properly licensed to fish in the Atlantic Tunas General Category or HMS Charter/Headboat Category with commercial endorsement under NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regulations and must have required safety equipment. Note: All vessels must also possess a Maine Landing Permit.

## Location

There are no limitations on fishing area, except that tournament participants must fish in a location that allows fish to be landed at Spring Point Marina.

## Weather

There is no weather committee. The decision to fish is that of the captains and participants, and is strictly at their own risk. Upon signing the Waiver of Damages, the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza Tournament cannot be held liable.

## Fishing

Fishing may commence (lines in) Sunday, July 30 at 12:01 a.m. and will be suspended Monday, July 31 at 10:00 p.m. Fishing resumes on Wednesday, August 2 at 12:01 a.m. and will conclude (lines out) Thursday, August 3 at 10:00 p.m.

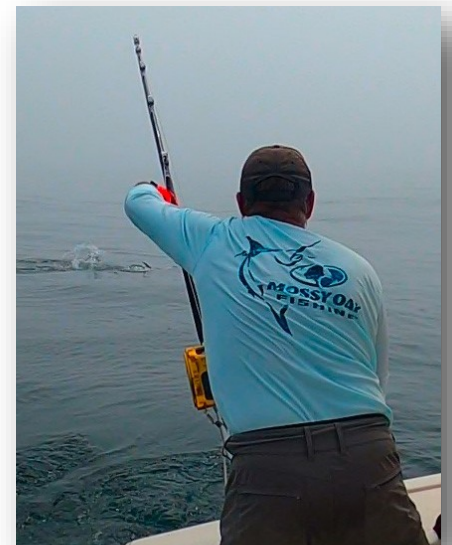
**All hookups should be reported or relayed to the Tournament Weighmaster Shawn Tibbetts (207) 502-0368, or other boats in the area as soon as possible when the fish is hooked. Tournament channel - 8.**

Once fish is landed (subdued, tail-roped and is hanging from or lying on the deck), vessels MUST relay notification by radio or phone to the Tournament Weighmaster, or other boats in the area that the fish is in contention. Tournament channel - 8 - Shawn Tibbetts (207) 502-0368. Participants are also encouraged to take a digital photo of the fish with date and time stamp.

All participants are expected to operate in the spirit of cooperation and fair play. At the request of a boat fighting a fish, all others must stay clear.

General Category Rules apply with the following exceptions: a) no electric harpoons, b) no aerial reconnaissance allowed and c) all tuna are to be hooked, fought and brought to boat side only by manually operated rod and reel (hand line or conventional harpoon prohibited except cockpit harpoon may be used to land fish). Power driven reels or devices of any kind are prohibited, except when used as kite rods or for physically disabled anglers with committee approval. This includes, but is not limited to motor, hydraulic or electrically driven devices. Fish may be fought from the rod holder or freestanding. Fish may be fought by multiple anglers.

All tuna must measure 73 inches curved fork length (CFL) or greater to be eligible for entry in this category.





# The Benefits of Bluefin

## Why you should eat more tuna

Aside from the simple fact that it's delicious, there are some good reasons to eat bluefin tuna, and enjoy it with a clear conscience.

### Heart Health

Low sodium and high potassium help lower blood pressure.

Eating it lowers triglycerides and reduces LDL cholesterol and omega-6 fatty acids that can accumulate in the arteries.

Tuna is high in omega-3 fatty acids that reduce inflammation in the cardiovascular system.;

### Weight Loss

It's low in fat and calories;

high in protein and

a great source of essential amino acids, minerals and vitamins A, B, C, D and E.

### Immune System Function

It's rich in selenium, vitamin C, manganese and zinc, antioxidants that help fight free radicals that can cause cellular damage.

### Reduce Cancer Risk

Antioxidants also fight cancer cells.

Omega-3 fatty acids reduce chronic inflammation that can lead to cancer.

Eating Bluefin tuna can also improve skin and bone health, boost metabolism and energy and reduce depression and anxiety. It really is a super food.

## Think Global: Eat Local

Perhaps most important, you're supporting a local, sustainable, artisanal fishery. That means it is a traditional fishery involving fishing households as opposed to commercial companies, using relatively small amounts of capital and energy, relatively small fishing vessels, making short fishing trips, close to shore, mainly for local consumption. Maine tuna are caught by harpoon and rod and reel, highly selective methods that eliminate by-catch and ensure the highest quality product.

### The Bluefin Initiative

Is dedicated to promoting the wise use of local, sustainable fisheries and supporting those who harvest, sell and serve locally-caught seafood.

[www.bluefinbonanza.org](http://www.bluefinbonanza.org)





## Weigh-in

Tournament Weighmasters are available from **Wednesday 8:00 a.m. to Thursday 10:00 p.m., and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ONLY.**

• Shawn Tibbetts - 207 - 502 - 0368

Tournament scales will be open from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. on each fishing day. close. All vessels with fish to be weighed should be tied to the scales dock, but must be inside the NO WAKE buoy at Spring Point Marina (rafting is acceptable) by 10 p.m.

Any vessel with a fish to be weighed that is not inside the NO WAKE buoy at Spring Point Marina or tied or rafted to the scales dock by 10:00 p.m. will not be accepted (Committee discretion).

All eligible fish must be weighed at Spring Point Marina and must be delivered on the tournament registered vessel upon which it was boated; they may not be landed and delivered by vehicle. Per NOAA/NMFS regulations, transfer of fish between vessels is prohibited.

In order to be eligible, heads and tails must be left on prior to weighing.

Fish will be weighed by the tail using a tail rope provided by the Tournament.

Participants are asked (and advised) to bring innards and gill plates. They will be weighed separately and included in the final weight, if detached.

Please cooperate with the Weighmaster in filling and returning your weigh-in slips. Please do not leave the weigh stand until your slip is filled in and signed.

By signing the weight slip you acknowledge that you have accepted the weight of your fish as final and correct. In the event of a tie in weight, any prize due will be awarded to the first fish weighed by the official Tournament scales.

All tuna are subject to examination by the Tournament Rules Committee.

Any fish found to have bullet wounds or any unnatural damage will be disqualified (This does not include gaff and/or harpoon marks).

Disposal of fish and/or fish parts is the responsibility of the angler after the Weighmaster releases the fish. DO NOT dump fish entrails and/or heads at the marina. In most cases innards and head will be retained by weighmaster to researchers for research purposes and then become their responsibility for disposal.

Once released by the weighmaster, participants are solely responsible for the disposition of their fish. They may sell their catch dockside to the local buyer of their choice, if present.

In accordance with NOAA Fisheries regulations, all vessels participating in the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza must report all HMS (tuna and sharks) caught during the tournament, whether they are landed or released. Please report any and all HMS that are caught and released to the weighmaster or a tournament official. Vessels participating in the tournament that elect to land their fish at another location are still required to report their landing to the tournament weighmaster, per NOAA Fisheries regulations.

Note: When traveling in Portland Harbor, the Tournament committee requests that all vessels observe State of Maine rules and regulations. Please obey 'No Wake Zones' and be mindful of lobster traps when traveling the inner and outer harbor waters.

## Closure

If, at any time during the Tournament, NMFS declares that the quota is filled and fishing must cease, buyers place a moratorium on buying fish or tournament dates fall within restricted fishing days, the tournament will be concluded and awards presented that evening. In the event of an early conclusion, please direct all questions/concerns to the Rules Committee.



**Ware-Butler**  
Building Supply

At Landry/French, community involvement is important. We're committed to building stronger communities and giving back to those communities in which we live and work. Whether it's through our participation in charity events, donating to non-profit organizations, or volunteering at a local soup kitchen, we believe we're all better off by helping those in need.

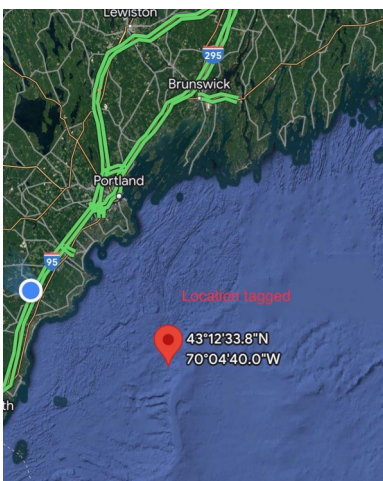


# LANDRY/FRENCH

## CONSTRUCTION

### A Fish Story

Here's how we are helping to support not only bluefin science, but those up and coming marine science students who will one day be working in the profession.



"On Sept 30 2021 a 99.5-inch Atlantic bluefin tuna was released with an electronic tag off Portland Maine. Nine months later, right on schedule the tag popped off and began transmitting it's data very close to where it had been tagged nine months earlier. Getting this tag back would allow us to download it's high resolution data. Recovering one of these tags requires good weather, a Goniometer (specialized equipment to pick up radio signals from the tag), good eyes and a little bit of luck.

Last Sunday provided all four of these conditions. After putting the tags' most recent location into the plotter we headed up the coast 22 miles and began acquiring the bearing and distance to the tag. We climbed up into the tower and after a few minutes worth of searching spotted the tag

floating in between two Ocean Sunfish (Mola, mola) swimming side by side. Finding a dark tag in a dark medium is no easy task, but thankfully luck was on our side and now we have millions of data point from this one tag alone. Stand by for the upcoming track to see the journey this Atlantic bluefin took. Thanks to the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza and the Linney family who made recovering this tag possible." - Walt Golet, University of Maine Pelagic Fisheries Lab at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute





## Awards

Prize distribution will be awarded for tournament year 2023 as follows: 1st Place: \$25,000 plus trophy for (1) year; 2nd Place: \$12,500; 3rd Place: \$6,000; 4th Place: \$3,000; 5th Place: \$1,500; Highest Cumulative Weight: \$1,000. Largest Fish Landed Each Day: \$1,000. In the event that all 80 entry slots are not filled, prize money will be reduced proportionately. In the event of NO FISH, all prize money will be added to the 2024 Tournament. If only one (1) fish is landed, \$25,000 and trophy for (1) year will be awarded. If less than five (5) fish are caught, all prize winnings will be awarded proportionately.

## Issues/Conflicts

A person or vessel is ineligible to obtain or possess any type of award or certification associated with this tournament unless the fish submitted for consideration is caught legally and under compliance of tournament rules and State and Federal laws.

In the event that one or more rule(s) provision(s) appear to be in conflict, the most restrictive rule applies and is to be determined by the Tournament Rules Committee.

All landed fish are subject to examination by the Tournament Rules Committee and/or Weighmaster.

The Tournament Rules Committee has final and sole authority to resolve questions and/or issues that arise. All committee decisions are final. Protests must be in writing and submitted by the close of scales on Saturday, August 4, 2023.

Protests/Grievances - Protests shall be called to the attention of the Rules Committee via radio, by contacting the telephone numbers provided, or in person upon arrival at the dock. Protests must be written in detail and turned into the Rules Committee by 8:30 p.m. the day of the incident (exception: Saturday, August 7, 2021 by 6:00 p.m.). All decisions made by the Rules Committee are final.

### PLEASE NOTE

**Rules contained within the tournament program represent a summary and may not contain complete information. All captains received a complete set of rules with their tournament package. Complete rules are also available online at [bluefinbonanza.org](http://bluefinbonanza.org).**



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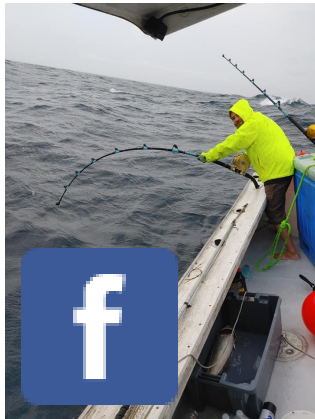
Tuna



Scenic/Lobster Tours

[relentlesspursuitfishingcharters.com](http://relentlesspursuitfishingcharters.com)

**Tag us When Sharing Your Photos/Videos**



#casco bay bluefin bonanza on Instagram and @Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza on Facebook

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# LINDSAY WITHERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



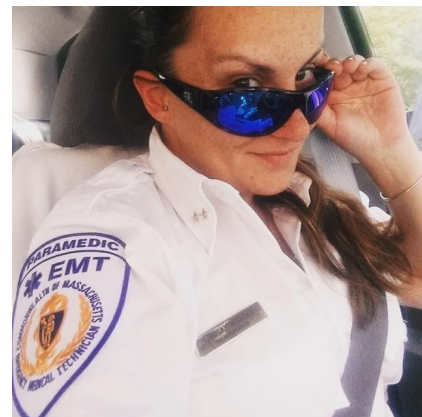
**Awarded on a rolling basis to eligible Maine  
Emergency Medical Services/Paramedicine trainees**

## ABOUT LINDSAY

Like her father, Lindsay had a desire to serve, so joining the fire service fit her ideally. Serving first as a call firefighter for Rehoboth, Lindsay joined Rehoboth EMS, rapidly advancing from EMT to Paramedic, and continuing her career into private EMS to shift supervisor, where she served many communities in Massachusetts.

After meeting Capt. Shawn Tibbetts, Lindsay fell in love with him and the offshore lifestyle. Like everything else she put her mind to, Lindsay was determined to be the best. She earned her USCG Master Captains license becoming an accomplished angler, beloved guide, valued pro staffer and a plank holding member of the Bluefin Bonanza.

Capt. Lindsay Anne Withers will forever be remembered as a person that improved the lives of all those around her. Sadly, her time with us ended too soon, but she was determined to leave behind a legacy that will continue helping others.



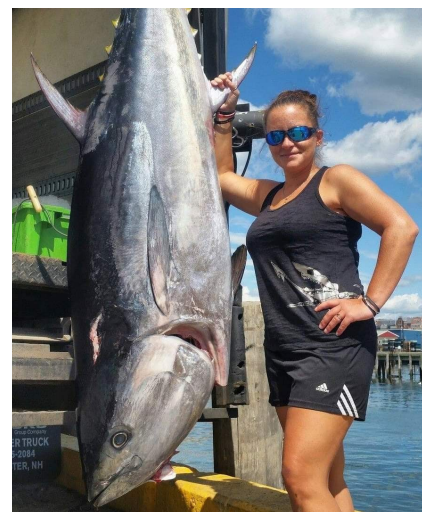
## ABOUT THIS SCHOLARSHIP

Upon Lindsay's passing in February, 2023, the **Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza Lindsay Withers EMS/Paramedicine Scholarship** was established to continue her legacy of commitment to the training and education of first responders.

This scholarship is awarded to as many trainees as possible based on available scholarship funds in order to facilitate their attendance at the MFSI Fire Instructor Program or Fire Officer Program/Academy.

## AWARDED TO SMCC STUDENTS WHO:

- Are in good standing with a rural Maine Fire Department and hold the necessary prerequisites.
- Have demonstrated personal financial need.



## Donate to this Scholarship

To donate to this scholarship, please fill out the donation form on the back side of this flyer and mail to:

**SMCC Foundation, 2 Fort Road, South Portland, ME 04106**  
or visit [www.smccME.edu/donate](http://www.smccME.edu/donate)

## Apply for this Scholarship

To apply for this scholarship, contact:

[jgraves@smccME.edu](mailto:jgraves@smccME.edu)



**For More Information:**

Contact the SMCC Foundation at [foundation@smccME.edu](mailto:foundation@smccME.edu) or 207-741-5559





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## Thank you to all our generous donors for their support.

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Batson River Brewing and Distilling	Lake Parlin Lodge & Camps	Saco Biddeford Savings
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Boise-Cascade	Life Raft Services	Sam's Club
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Dolphin Marina and Restaurant	Northwoods Wilderness Adventures	Sprague Energy
Ducks Unlimited	Pat's Pizza - Yarmouth	The Hometown Foundation
E. J. Jaxtimer	Pat's Pizza - Scarborough	Thomas & Lord
Eldredge Lumber	Penn Reels	Tunacious Darts
End Game Tuna Gear	Pineland Farms	Varney Agency
Fat Kid Culinary	Pinwheel Charters	Varney Benefits Advisors
Fliprocks	Poland Spring	Vessel Services
Free Range Fish & Lobster	Port Harbor Marine	Ware-Butler Building Supply
FuelOX	Portland Yacht Services	Wooden Alchemy
F/V Molly Jane Charters	Joe Ray	Welch's Woodcraft
Gorham Sand and Gravel	Red Claw	W.S. Emerson
Hannaford Supermarkets	Red Wing Shoes	Yankee Ford
Home Depot	Reel Easy Custom Rods	Yankee Marina

**Sponsors and donors are critical to our success. Please take a moment to read through the list of individuals and businesses who contributed. When you get a chance, please thank them for us, and consider patronizing their businesses.**





# Supporting Our Future

As a first-class tuna tournament, the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza combines highly-skilled anglers from all over the north-east in a contest of competition, comradery and fun. We also understand the importance and reward of giving back to our communities. As an independent, non-profit, 501(c)(3) charitable organization, the Casco Bay Bluefin Bonanza Tuna Tournament is committed to the purpose of raising and expending funds in support of educational scholarships to deserving individuals. To that end, all donations made by charity auction participants, raffle ticket buyers and our sponsors will go toward a scholarship fund to support students in Maine's community college and technical school system, the graduates of which will ultimately enter the work force and contribute meaningfully to our community.

## Stock Surge Means Good News

At this time last year we were facing the very real possibility of a significant decrease in Total Allowable Catch (TAC), called for by several nations and private NGOs in ICCAT. Thanks to the efforts of researchers like the team at GMRI and the lobbying by the NMFS Highly Migratory Advisory Panel, not only was that threat avoided, the U.S. quota for the western Atlantic bluefin TAC was increased by 5%, from 1,273 mt to 1,341 m.

Moving forward, NOAA Fisheries intends to discontinue the purse seine category and re-allocate that quota among the other directed categories. If that occurs, which in all likelihood it will, the General Category quota will increase by 16% in 2023.

Meanwhile, ICCAT has been engaged in developing a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for bluefin tuna and conducted several workshops to update stakeholders and get their input. This process involves incorporating more of the best available data, including things like finally acknowledging stock mixing, the possibility of more spawn-

ing areas and an increase in smaller, younger fish.

Like an old Novi, the wheels of government chug along at a sometimes frustratingly slow pace and results from the MSE won't show up soon. However, all indications are that the western Atlantic bluefin stock is much healthier than once thought.

That is the result of careful and conservative management. Fishermen have sacrificed in the name of science and responsible management but it looks like it's finally starting to pay off. The future looks very bright for our fishery for current and future generations.



## End Game Tuna Gear

Most fish are lost at the boat, because the crew is either not ready or they don't have the proper gear for the end game. Don't be behind the 8 ball at end game. It's not yours until it's tied off. We sell tuna and swordfish darts (rigged or unrigged) and commercial cockpit harpoons. We also offer 9 thread, super-haul harpoon line with a dart snap, 40" A1 red buoy, and a heavy duty milk crate. Plus an 11 ft 7/16 nylon tail/tow rope. Shipping is available! Contact: [endgame-tunagear@gmail.com](mailto:endgame-tunagear@gmail.com) for pricing.







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