

# MASSACHUSETTS COMMERCIAL FISHING PORT PROFILES

The **Massachusetts Commercial Fishing Port Profiles** were developed through a collaboration between the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, the University of Massachusetts Boston's Urban Harbors Institute, and the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance. Using data from commercial regional permits, the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program's (ACCSP) Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS) Dealer Database, and harbormaster and fishermen surveys, these profiles provide an overview of the commercial fishing activity and infrastructure within each municipality. The Port Profiles are part of a larger report which describes the status of the Commonwealth's commercial fishing and port infrastructure, as well as how profile data can inform policy, programming, funding, infrastructure improvements, and other important industry-related decisions.

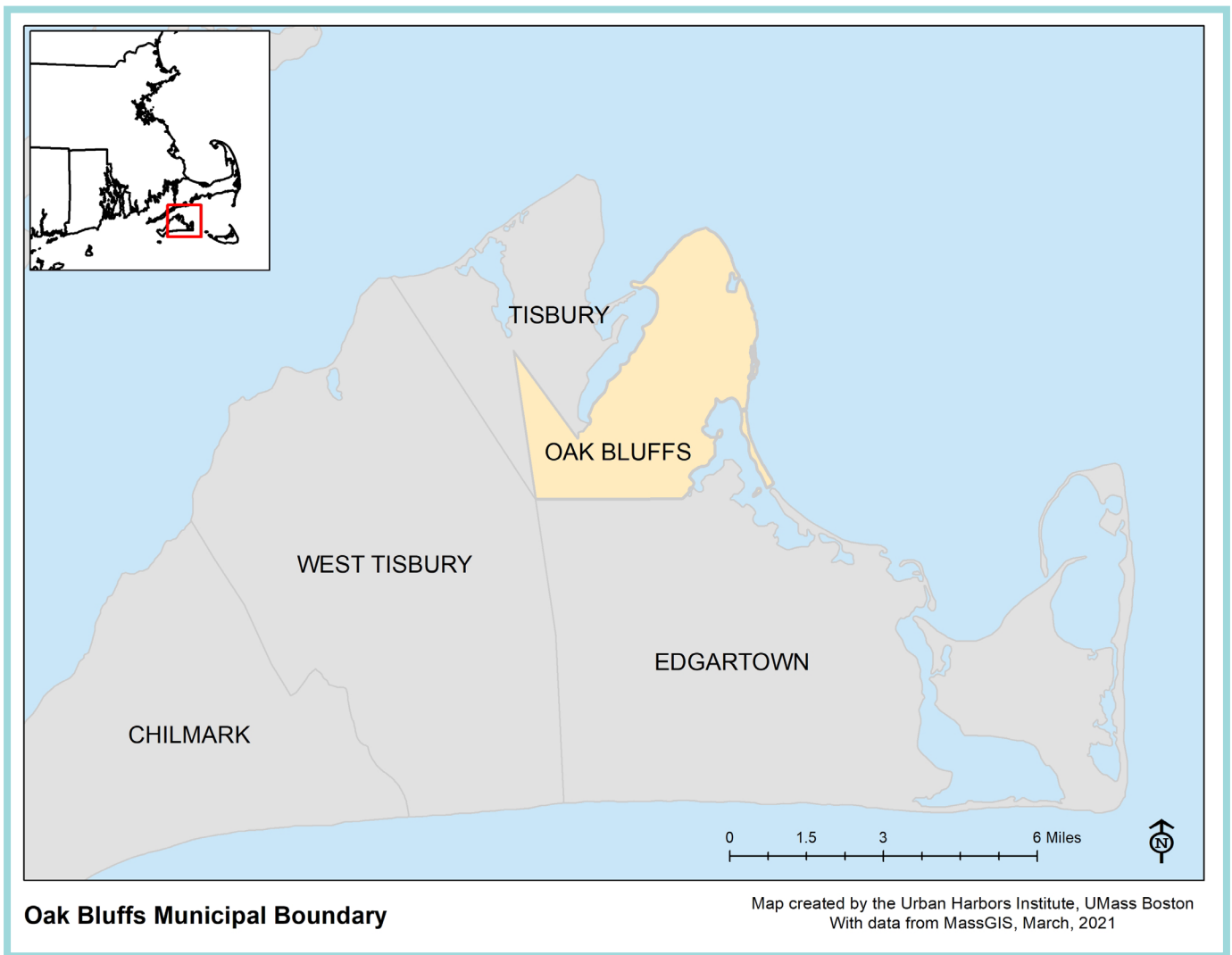
For the full report, visit the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries website.



URBAN HARBORS INSTITUTE  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON







### Key Terms:

**Permitted Harvesters:** Commercially permitted harvesters residing in the municipality

**Vessels:** Commercially permitted vessels with the municipality listed as the homeport

**Trips:** Discrete commercial trips unloading fish or shellfish in this municipality

**Active Permitted Harvesters:** Commercially permitted harvesters with at least one reported transaction in a given year

**Active Dealers:** Permitted dealers with at least one reported purchase from a harvester in a given year

**Ex-Vessel Value:** Total amount (\$) paid directly to permitted harvesters by dealers at the first point of sale



# OAK BLUFFS

Located on Martha's Vineyard, Oak Bluffs has three main harbors: Lagoon Pond, Oak Bluffs Harbor, and Sengekontacket Pond.

Permitted commercial fisheries, which may or may not be active during the survey period, include: Lobster Pot, Shellfish (by hand), Clam Dredge, Rod & Reel, and For Hire/ Charter.



## 2018 Overview

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



### Oak Bluffs' commercial fishery had:

- 30** permitted harvesters with an Oak Bluffs address
- 23** vessels with an Oak Bluffs homeport
- 240** trips landing in Oak Bluffs
- 11** active permitted harvesters landing in Oak Bluffs
- 6** active dealers purchasing in Oak Bluffs



### Commercial harvesters landed the following in Oak Bluffs in 2018:

**71,010** pounds of catch with an ex-vessel value of **\$246,824**

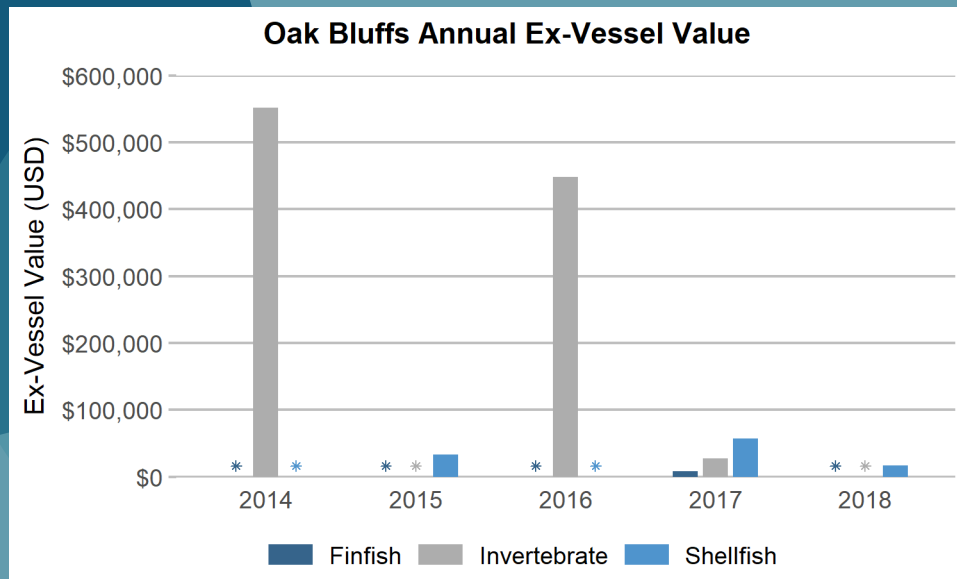
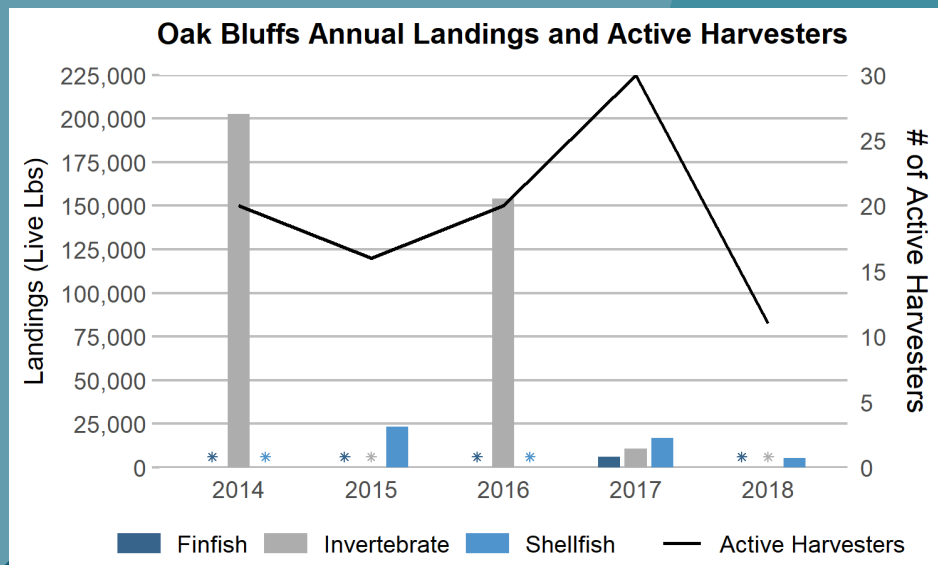
The top-ranked species, by dollar value, landed between 2014-2018 included:

- Channeled Whelk
- Bay Scallop
- Knobbed Whelk



# 5 Year Trends in Commercial Landings and Value

Source: DMF Permitting and Statistics Data; ACCSP Data Warehouse



\* = CONFIDENTIAL, as fewer than three harvesters, vessels, and/or dealers reported in this municipality.



# Status of the Commercial Fishing Industry

Source: 2019 Harbormaster and Harvester Survey Data

Oak Bluffs' commercial fishing fleet consists primarily of non-trailerred vessels, with a couple of trailerred vessels.

## Commercial Fishing Infrastructure



### Infrastructure upgrades in last ten years:

- Dock and bulkhead repairs
- Channel dredging



### Current infrastructure Challenges

- Permitting process for infrastructure
- Jetty in need of repair
- Lack of docking space and moorings
- Lack of storage space
- Limited parking
- Lack of transient port accommodations
- Conflicts with other users

### Needs

- Continuing to rebuild the jetty
- Parking (including overnight)
- More unloading and loading/ramp space
- Additional storage space
- Dock space and access
- Commercial ice and hoist



### Infrastructure dedicated solely to commercial fishermen:

- Moorings: None
- Slips: 2 slips for charter vessels in-season
- Broadside berthing: Space for 6 vessels in-season



### In 2018, the municipality charged for the following services:

- Slips: \$165/foot per year
- Broadside berthing: \$350/year



Type of Infrastructure	Available?
Ice	
Bait storage	
Trash disposal	
Commerical offloading	
Hoist	
Dock space	
Gear storage	
Mooring space	
Fueling stations	
Vessel repair	
Launch ramp	
Parking for fishermen	
Parking for seafood trucks	
Other	

= Available