

From: [Tom Tomkiewica](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn: Dan McKiernan
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:10:53 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am strongly opposed to the recent proposal of a gear restriction "closure" for the entire State of Mass coastal waters. The adverse effects of a closure is not only to the men fishing in these waters but also the small communities that we support fuel, bait, marine supply's, shipyards, restaurants and countless other small businesses we support. The science says that there has been no interactions in our area Area2 SNE ever. If there were interactions with whales in our area I could understand but with there only being 2 interactions over the past 11 years and one in the last 10 in Area 1 north of the Cape is insane. You yourself said that the whales will move north as spring time moves along. We as a small fishery of less than 30 fishermen have bit the bullet bought back a fishery that in your own words was never coming back or just short of a disaster and finally we're starting to benefit from all we've done and now shutting us down in one of our most profitable times is ludicrous !!!! The amount of line in the water at that time of year is minimal at best most likely less than 1000 end lines if you made gosnold a trawl zone. The amount of fishermen left in state waters area 2 need this time of year to survive were not like area 1 that have no fishery that time of year. This is a wrong that needs to be righted I've been lobstering on my own since 1992 and been going with my family since 1979 . I could never have imagined a shut down and now here it is . We've gone through a industry funded buyback, a tough time where lobsters were depleted do to shell disease and an oil spill and yet we're still fishing when most thought we would go out of business. I myself have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars to make a living for myself and 2 other families off my boat and to be shut down for at minimum of 4 months when all is said and done it will be closer to 5 months is incomprehensible. We as a small fishery can't take another hit like this it's a dagger to the heart. We've done all you asked 600# breakaways , sinking ground lines , and red tracers in the line to show of an entanglement happened where it came from yet it's never enough. WE NEED THIS TO FEED OUR FAMILIES please don't shut us down .

Thank You : Tom Tomkiewicz F/V Intimidator

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Russell Bauer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Commercial Fishing - Striped Bass
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:45:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Folks,

Before I consider renewing my commercial permit (striped bass endorsement) I would like to know if commercial fishing for striped bass will be allowed at the Cape Cod Canal for the 2021 season.

Thanks,
Russell Bauer Permit 168784
russell.bauer@comcast.net

From: [Robert Clark](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:04:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Robert Clark
22 Old New Salem Road
Petersham, MA 01366

From: [Kelly Carlson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:56:55 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kelly Carlson
58 Eaton St
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Ruth Burday](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:14:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ruth Burday
117 Patricia Ave
Dalton, MA 01226

From: [Jenne Sindoni](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:38:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jenne Sindoni
119 Marion St
Wilmington, MA 01887

From: [Brittany Gravely](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:16:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Brittany Gravely
10 Castleton St
2
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

From: [Preston Repenning](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:47:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Preston Repenning
P.O. Box 1531
Lanesborough, MA 01237

From: [Penelope Metropolis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:10:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Thank you for your efforts to help protect these tremendous creatures!

Sincerely,
Penelope Metropolis
3 Greeley Rd
Winchester, MA 01890

From: [Bruce Boehm](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: My Renewal Permit
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:00:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hey Marine Fisheries Folks,

Just checking to see if my commercial renewal permit was sent out. As of today I have not received it. Friends have already received their commercial permits. I usually get mine before they do, hence my email.

My Permit Number is 150502.

Hope you can help.

Thanks,

Bruce Boehm
PO Box 691
Brewster, MA 02631

Phone - 508 896 8466

From: jutmanb@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Proposed winter lobster restriction
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 10:16:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Can you send me a link to these proposed restriction for lobster permit holder?

From: [Peggy Sagan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 3:43:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Daniel McKiernan

Director, Department of Marine Fisheries

250 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, MA 02114

I am writing in support of stricter regulations to address the issue of marine mammal entanglement. The North Atlantic Right Whale population is dwindling, with injuries and death resulting from entanglement in fishing gear as these amazing creatures feed in and pass through the waters off Massachusetts. The loss of even one right whale reduces the chance that this species will survive. Although the proposed DMF regulations are a good first step, they do not go far enough. We in Massachusetts have an opportunity to protect the remaining numbers of North Atlantic Right Whales by considering the adoption of rope-less fishing gear regulations.

Living in a coastal town that relies on the fisheries, I am acutely aware of the concerns of the lobster industry about the financial impact of stricter regulations on their livelihood. However, the warming of the oceans, especially the Gulf of Maine, is a greater threat to the Massachusetts lobster industry long-term than a modification in fishing gear regulations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Peggy Sagan

55 Alves Road

P O Box 1624

Wellfleet, MA 02667

psagan88@gmail.com

From: [George Mandell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:32:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

George Mandell
Milton, MA 02186

From: [Nathaniel Dadosky](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:27:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nathaniel Dadosky
East Lyme, CT 06333

From: [Stephen Minogue](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:23:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stephen Minogue
Dedham, MA 02026

From: [Gini Cowell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:21:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gini Cowell
Washington, DC 20500

From: [becky johnson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:16:00 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

becky johnson
Caribou, ME 04736

From: [Douglas Albertson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:11:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Douglas Albertson
Belchertown, MA 01007

From: [Amy Freeman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:05:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amy Freeman
Pelham, NH 03076

From: [Nicole Mola](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:03:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nicole Mola
Norwalk, CT 06851

From: [robin nadel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:00:55 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

robin nadel
Branford, CT 06405

From: [Marie Horan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:57:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Marie Horan
, We need to save the right whales from extinction!

From: [Robin Covino](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:54:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robin Covino
Milford, CT 06460

From: [Wendy Ruggeri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:49:25 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Wendy Ruggeri
Naugatuck, CT 06770

From: [Joan Ellen Mccoy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:43:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joan Ellen Mccoy
Fairfield, CT 06825

From: [Marie Broudy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:41:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Marie Broudy
Eastham, MA 02642

From: [Robert Tarlow](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:38:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robert Tarlow
East Boothbay, ME 04544

From: [Jeff Reynolds](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:34:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jeff Reynolds
Bangor, ME 04401

From: [Mary Harrison](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:29:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary Harrison
Centerville, MA 02632

From: [Robert Gerosa](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:27:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robert Gerosa
New Fairfield, CT 06812

From: [Erline Towner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:24:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Erline Towner
Milford, NH 03055

From: [Linda Smyth](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:21:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Linda Smyth
Enfield, CT 06082

From: [Donna Thomas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:15:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Donna Thomas
Plainfield, VT 05667

From: [Tracy Whitford](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:11:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tracy Whitford
Barrington, RI 02806

From: [Paul Sorensen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:08:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Paul Sorensen
Nashua, NH 03063

From: [Kelly Eaves](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:05:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kelly Eaves
Loganville, GA 30052

From: [Randi Byron](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:03:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Randi Byron
Avon, CT 06001

From: [Janine Moore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:58:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Janine Moore
Waterville, ME 04901

From: [lenore sivulich](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:53:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

lenore sivulich
New Gloucester, ME 04260

From: [Eileen Awsiukiewicz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:49:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Eileen Awsiukiewicz
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

From: [Odile Sudell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:46:39 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Odile Sudell
Cos Cob, CT 06807

From: [Brenda Roy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:41:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brenda Roy
Manchester, NH 03102

From: [Enid Breakstone](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:37:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Enid Breakstone
Manchester, CT 06040

From: [Rosalind Ivens](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:31:56 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rosalind Ivens
Bucksport, ME 04416

From: [Amy Cyr](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:26:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amy Cyr
Vernon, CT 06066

From: [Mary Ann Clark](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:23:38 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary Ann Clark
Weatogue, CT 06089

From: [William Cassidy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:18:36 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

William Cassidy
Belmont, MA 02478

From: [beth werner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:14:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

beth werner
Hamden, CT 06514

From: [Natalie Nowel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:09:13 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Natalie Nowel
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

From: [Laura Leon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:08:52 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Laura Leon
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

From: [sabina weiss](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:07:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

sabina weiss
, W4 3by

From: [Tony and Cindy Guarnieri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:03:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tony and Cindy Guarnieri
Stamford, CT 06905

From: [Tony and Cindy Guarnieri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:00:35 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tony and Cindy Guarnieri
Stamford, CT 06905

From: [Danny James](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:55:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Danny James
Brunswick, ME 04011

From: [Diane Petrillo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:50:37 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diane Petrillo
Hamden, CT 06518

From: [Carol Lenahan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:44:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carol Lenahan
Campton, NH 03223

From: [Noah Hanmer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:42:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Noah Hanmer
Bristol, RI 02809

From: [charlie burns](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:39:39 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

charlie burns
Norwalk, CT 06850

From: [allen price](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:28:06 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

allen price
Cranston, RI 02910

From: [Margaret Sawyer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:23:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Margaret Sawyer
East Lyme, CT 06333

From: [Kenneth Ruby](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 10:21:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kenneth Ruby
Salem, NH 03079

From: [Casey Atkins](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 1:34:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Casey Atkins
Concord, MA 01742

From: [RICHARD MOTTA](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#); [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: AREA 2 Right Whale Closure
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 6:24:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director McKiernan:

My wife and I are strongly opposed to the proposed right whale closure mainly in the Area 2 Southern New England. We believe the justification for this closure is non-existent and it will create an undue hardship on our local independent lobstermen. We believe the south coast lobster business can't take this type of economic impact. There are no right whales in these water to save and a closure in this area won't save one whale. But it will put many hard-working citizens out of business.

Thank you for your consideration,
Richard and Brenda Motta
E. Freetown, MA

From: [Bob Dobias](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [robert](#)
Subject: Area Closure Letter Attn: Daniel McKiernan
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:12:55 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attn: Daniel McKiernan

Hello,

I am writing this letter to voice my concern on the issue of closing access to fixed gear fishing during the months of February-April. As a small business owner and commercial fisherman, fishing helps sustain our boat building business and vice versa year round. Our boat shop employs 6 men all of whom fish through the winter in state water and it's a business model that has proven successful making a living for all of us over the last few years and improving every year.

On our particular boat, we fish through the winter fishing only relatively long trawls (16 traps) and in 20 fathom or greater water. Our end lines are 5/16 or 3/8. To my understanding, there has been no direct evidence to date that whales are becoming entangled in state water gear but more often flotsam or offshore fishing gear often from outside the country. I know whales have beached and died with "signs of entanglement" but attributing their death to vertical lines would be akin to a smoker dying in a car accident and showing cause of death to be cigarettes.

I understand the DMF is not necessarily the architect of these proposed closures and that there is a level of bureaucracy to navigate that most fisherman including myself are not completely apprised of. I would say as a fisherman, of all 7 possible regulations the DMF has outlined, 3, 4, 5, and 6 seem like reasonable first steps. Number 7 I have no comment because I am not a gill netter and I have no knowledge of instances where they have become entangled in the Cape Cod area. Number 5 should make an allowance to grandfather in anyone who is fishing singles currently because they most likely fish by themselves and there is a level of danger being added to make them change how they are currently fishing.

Number 1 & 2 seem hasty and lack any sort of evidence or science to support the closures. I would say its absolutely legal and reasonable to require those filing lawsuits and judges entertaining such filings to show indisputable evidence that Massachusetts state end lines are the direct cause of right whale mortality in those months and if that is not possible then the closure has no merit.

Commercial fishing, particularly Atlantic Lobster fishing in Massachusetts is something that is unique and special for the state to be a part of. As we know fishing is one of the oldest professions known to man, and in a world becoming largely ruled by technology, home offices, staying indoors, it provides a sense of normalcy and makes people feel good to see it happening. I remember in early April pulling into the dock in Salem and the folks out walking were happy to see a local business still working to provide a food source for local and country wide families.

There is on the other hand, of course, a group of individuals, many from out of state, who have an agenda along with their best strategy on how to save the whales. Why do they pursue this? I'm not entirely sure, some of them have probably figured out how to make a living for themselves through this pursuit, many are most likely financially solvent so they find issues like this to pursue to create some sense of purpose in their life. On their agenda, I would imagine they have developed a list of their perceived opponents to whales and of course fisherman are on that list. I would hope that included on that list are the following:

1. Whale Watch boats, who chase whales for the amusement of passengers which I assume is often confusing and antagonizing to whales
2. The national and international shipping and cruise ship industry. We know that there is actual evidentiary proof that they are the leading and potentially the only cause of death for right whales in Massachusetts state waters.
3. Offshore wind construction. As we know, whales are one of the most sensitive mammals in the ocean and erecting a structure in the ocean floor to travel through the water column emitting a constant low or

high frequency sound or vibration is of course something that can only be detrimental to whales since they have existed so long without these structures in their way and interrupting their sense of communication and direction. As a matter of fact, the argument could be made that if whales are becoming comfortable with a structure emitting a mechanical sound that does not physically harm them, perhaps that is why they would be slow to move out of the way of large vessels and ship strikes are occurring.

In any case, all of the groups listed above either share a common interest with these whale groups, or are far too large and powerful to be bothered by their decree and have greater financial backing than the litigators .

So, unfortunately, it has come down to monetary capability of fighting this closure. The groups seeking closures are very well funded and quite well organized. Commercial fisherman, largely independent and with no large funding source to fight the closure, are relying on the DMF to be a voice of reason in this. As a citizen of MA and the United States, I would think there needs to be irrefutable evidence available before the state closes a means of living for so many individuals in the state. Even if that evidence became available, we know that since the dawn of time, an immeasurable number of species have become extinct through one means or another and extinctions will continue long after we are gone. So in order for humans and animals to cohabitate on this earth, there needs to be a level of reproduction sustained or we will see exactly what is happening to the right whale. They encounter all of the same hazards that every other whale species encounters yet they are having a hard time sustaining. This is most likely due to reasons beyond the control of man. So why would we end a means for individuals in this state to make a living on a whim that the closures are helping a sea creature that is likely going to become extinct regardless.

Lastly, it is a huge shock to me that when we are considering the closure of an entire area for 3 months out of the year (more like 5 because a month on each end will be dedicated to setting and retrieving all gear) that the state is still issuing recreational licenses. If the situation is so dire to consider shutting down the fishery, I would think the very most elementary step to take in eliminating vertical lines would be to shut down all recreational fixed gear efforts. This would eliminate a huge number of end lines in the water.

I hope you can take the time to read this letter and consider some of the points made. I would appreciate any acknowledgment of reception of the letter so I at least know it reached the intended recipient. Thanks so much for your time and consideration.

BOB DOBIAS / **Manager**

CAPE CODDER BOAT CO.

C: 978.979.1795

E: bob@capecodderboats.com

[WEB](#) | [FACEBOOK](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#)

From: jutmanb@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Closure of winter lobster season
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 10:07:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

I am writing to you with objection to the call for seasonal closure of lobstering. While I have only been lobstering a couple of years, I am a charter captain and commercial tuna fisherman. Most rec lobstering is done in less than 50ft of water. During my short years, I have seen 1 right whale w/ calf, in 75ft or less, 1! With out incident. I hope DMF is not using republican impeachment strategy, I.E. No witnesses and no facts, I read a lot of posts about the heavy regulation commercial lobstermen have to go thru as a result of non evidence supported rule changes. We have to work with science and not just conservation. Why can't we tag whales with a radar deflection devices that will aid in preventing, the true killer of whales, cruise ships, from doing and more damage? Let's tax an industry out of existence to save whales while at the same time, allowing corporations to pollute the ocean w/ pcb's and other hard metal compounds?

Enough of the misdirected and misguided efforts by people who have no connection or experience, to the industry! Trash is killing all sea creatures, a sperm whale dissection's found plastic bags, even a 25ft section of garden hose in its' belly. Lobstermen are not threatening whales, cruise ships, ARE! Let us move beyond trump and the disinformation techniques used to manipulate the truth and stop hurting the fishermen that provide food! Enough is enough!

Thank you,
Captain Justin A. Vyce
0003359776
12/15/20

From: [R.Wray](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Comments on New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 10:30:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Citizens Opposing Active Sonar Threats (COAST)
536 Point Road
Hancock, Maine 04640

December 15, 2020

Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114

Re: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing

Dear Director McKiernan:

I am writing on behalf of COAST to provide comments on the New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing. Scientists are telling us that we need to seriously reduce human-caused injuries and mortalities of North Atlantic right whales if this species is to avoid extinction within the next few decades. This is what we must do, including a drastic reduction in the number of injuries and deaths resulting from entanglements in fishing gear. This must be accomplished rapidly—there is no time for further delays in extending meaningful protections for these whales if the population is to have a viable chance of recovering. COAST believes we owe it to the whales, who have every right to exist on this earth. But we also believe we owe it to ourselves. We will all benefit if our ocean ecosystems are healthy and thriving.

Proposed Fixed Gear Closures and Prohibitions

COAST believes the best and most effective way to protect North Atlantic right whales from entanglements in fishing gear, is to prevent those entanglements from occurring in the first place. These closures will help reduce entanglements, but will likely not eliminate them. Although there are times of the year when right whales are more likely to be found in waters off Massachusetts, right (and other) whales don't operate on human schedules, and do show up in those waters at other times, including some times when they are least expected. So if these whales are in these waters at times other than the proposed closures, they would still be subject to entanglements.

While the proposed measures include the option to extend the trap gear closure if right whales remain present, it is also possible that after leaving the area for some time, a whale, or whales, may return following the closure period. It goes without saying that if the gear is in the water and whales contact that gear, an entanglement may occur... no matter what time of the year it is. DMF should retain the authority, and exercise that authority, to re-close an amply-sized precautionary buffer zone around the area where right whale sightings have been confirmed.

While the proposed commercial trap closure includes all Commonwealth waters, the proposed closure on commercial gillnet does not. It is unclear why this is the case. If any gillnet fishing is being done outside of

the proposed closure area, the proposed measure will not ensure no right whales are entangled in gillnet gear. Therefore, the proposed closure on commercial gillnets should include all Commonwealth waters, and again, following the closure period, DMF should retain the authority to re-close an amply-sized buffer zone around the area where right whale sightings have been confirmed.

The proposed prohibition on commercial fishermen using vessels larger than 29' to fish single lobster traps may help reduce entanglements, but that prohibition should be extended to all commercial and recreational fishermen, as right whales do at times come into near-shore waters and may become entangled. At this time, every single living right whale is critical to the specie's survivability. People who are fishing recreationally are doing so for their pleasure and should not be needlessly threatening the future of right whales. Commercial fishermen should not be doing so either, and should also be prohibited from fishing single traps. There is no doubt that making this change will be difficult financially for some commercial fishermen. They must be offered some form of government assistance or compensation to help them make the changes necessary and so they need not face increased danger themselves.

Proposed Gear modifications

The use of weaker rope, such as the 1,700 pound breaking strength buoy line being proposed that will allow an entangled whale a better chance of breaking free of at least part of the gear that is entangling it may help reduce some serious injuries and mortalities, but it is not a satisfactory solution to the problem of entanglements. Nor is the 3/8" and 5/16" proposed maximum buoy line diameters for commercial and recreational trap fishermen. These modifications do not guarantee whales will in fact be able to free themselves, nor will they necessarily prevent whales from being injured, having energy resources drained by carrying what gear remains, having their ability to reproduce diminished, or for that matter, dying as a result of that entanglement. Very clearly, right whale calves and juveniles may not have the strength or energy to break free. The same is true for sick or already entangled or otherwise injured whales.

This is not to say these measures should not be tried, but they are far from the best option to reduce injuries and mortalities of right and other whales. The best option is to prevent entanglements from happening in the first place.

Ropeless Gear

Ropeless fishing would allow for fishing while effectively eliminating the cause of the great majority of entanglements...a win/win/win for fishermen, whales, and for the marine environment we all depend upon. It is already in use by fishermen in various parts of the world, and could and should be further developed so as to achieve even higher success rates. DMF should immediately begin permitting the use of ropeless gear, and it should be exempted from closures for fixed gear that requires rope. DMF (and NOAA Fisheries and others) should also encourage the rapid development and deployment of this technology with generous subsidies and other rewards to commercial fishermen as well as qualified businesses, engineers, scientists, and designers. This should be done without delay. As long as there are vertical lines in the water, whales are at risk of becoming entangled in them. Ropeless gear will get the rope out of the water, allowing the whales to live and the fishermen to fish.

Gear marking

Until the time when all fishing is done without the use of vertical ropes or other gear that can entangle whales (and other marine life), it is essential that all fishing gear, without exception, be thoroughly, and comprehensively marked so as to clearly indicate the specific fishery, and specific area fished. The ambiguity that has resulted from a lack of sufficient marking on fishing gear has been inappropriately used

by some fisheries to claim they are not responsible for causing entanglements. A lack of evidence does not prove innocence. A requirement for the marking of all gear will shed much needed light on the matter and do away with this ambiguity. It will also allow for a more focused adjustment of gear and practices to further reduce entanglements.

Although the proposed maximum buoy line diameters may help differentiate trap gear from Massachusetts from heavier gear fished offshore and in Canada, this in itself is not enough. All parts of the gear should be clearly marked, and be marked minimally every 30' on rope, so that should a whale become entangled, the gear that entangled it, the location of where that gear was set, and the fishery that gear came from, can readily be identified. This should be done so that even in cases where the gear cannot be recovered, it can still be identified through sightings and photos.

Other Threats to Right Whales

Entanglements are not the only threat to the continued existence of right whales. Ship strikes are also a very serious threat. Current protections against shipstrikes are obviously inadequate and should be extended to include mandatory (and strictly enforced) speed limits on motorized vessels, including smaller vessels over 25 or 30 feet, which can also injure and kill if they were to strike a whale. DMF should be aware of other threats to right whales, and where feasible, take meaningful action to address those threats. This could be done, for example, by DMF having input on, and limiting or prohibiting, where possible, Navy activities such as the deployment of its sonar or the use of explosives in Massachusetts waters where the resulting sound energy would very likely negatively impact any right whales unlucky enough to be exposed to it.

Funding to implement protective measures

The measures that can, and must be used to effectively reduce injuries and mortalities of right whales resulting from entanglements will cost money to implement. It will be a significant amount, but minuscule when compared to, for example, the \$2 billion a day this country spends on the Pentagon budget (Costs of War Project, Boston University). COAST believes it is unfair to expect fishermen in small-scale operations to be made to bear all of those costs. NOAA Fisheries and other federal agencies as well as state government should put their money where their mouths are and financially assist fishermen in making the changes that are necessary through subsidies and other means. Doing this would reduce the hardship and dangers fishermen would otherwise face, and likely increase levels of willingness and cooperation in efforts to increase protections that allow for the recovery of the right whale.

Conclusion

If right whales are to avoid extinction, then every effort must be made to immediately protect the ones that remain. We cannot rely on half-measures that will fail to offer right whales enough protections from entanglements and other threats to their continued existence. To allow for the extinction of this remarkable species would be a great crime...and absolutely unacceptable. Now is the time for the creative implementation of effective measures that will protect these whales and allow for their recovery—not just on paper, but in the real world. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Russell Wray
Citizens Opposing Active Sonar Threats (COAST)

Russell Wray
Citizens Opposing Active Sonar Threats
536 Point Road
Hancock, Maine 04640
phone: 207-266-3105
7coast@roadrunner.com

From: [Johanna Finnegan-Topitzer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:18:25 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Johanna Finnegan-Topitzer
9 Carney St
Apt 2
Medford, MA 02155

From: [Linda Thomas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:16:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Linda Thomas
57 Juggler Meadow Rd
Leverett, MA 01054

From: [Sally Thompson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:00:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sally Thompson
14 Freedom Farm Rd
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Barbradk Eaton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:54:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Barbradk Eaton
PO Box 615
Easthampton, MA 01027

From: [Leah Cameron](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:43:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Leah Cameron
637 Benson Road
Whitinsville, MA 01588

From: [Jacob Pendlebury](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:33:53 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jacob Pendlebury
26 Lincoln Ave
Marblehead, MA 01945

From: [Catherine Farrell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:32:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Catherine Farrell
76 Park St
Arlington, MA 02474

From: [Susan Piaggio-O'Keefe](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:14:55 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Susan Piaggio-O'Keefe
173 Ocean Ave West
Salem, MA 01970

From: [James OKeefe](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 6:47:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
James OKeefe
173 Ocean Ave W
Salem, MA 01970

From: [Gloria Kegeles](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 6:31:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Gloria Kegeles
PO Box 254
PO Box
Wendell, MA 01379

From: [Don Ogden](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 5:51:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Director McKiernan,

North Atlantic right whales, which swim in our Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Don Ogden
The Envirop Show
140 Pine Street
Florence, MA 01062

From: [Michelle Stoney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 5:47:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Michelle Stoney
29 River St
Hudson, MA 01749

From: [Gordon Anderson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:32:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Gordon Anderson
390 Summer Ave
Reading, MA 01867

From: [Ann Braman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:22:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ann Braman
25 Kinsley Rd
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Mary Hubbard](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:12:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Mary Hubbard
62 Deer Run Ln
North Falmouth, Ma 02556
North Falmouth, MA 02556

From: [Ronald vander Bosch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 12:03:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ronald vander Bosch
41 Norwood St
Greenfield, MA 01301

From: [Chris Mccully](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:39:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Chris Mccully
145 South St
Northampton, MA 01060

From: [Ann Rosenkranz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:13:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ann Rosenkranz
102 Skiffs Ln
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

From: [Nancy Swartwout](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 10:22:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Nancy Swartwout
350 Granby Rd
South Hadley, MA 01075

From: [Louise Amyot](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 10:17:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Louise Amyot
56 Madison Cir Apt 1
Greenfield, MA 01301

From: [Amy Berenson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:51:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Amy Berenson
47 Cloutmans Ln
Marblehead, MA 01945

From: [Maureen Commane](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:42:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Maureen Commane
25 Fairfield St.
Needham, MA 02492

From: [Priscilla Chambers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:39:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Priscilla Chambers
429 Sewall St
Boylston, MA 01505

From: [Virginia Jastromb](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:37:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Virginia Jastromb
73 Barrett St
Apt 1040
Northampton, MA 01060

From: [Dennis Diemand](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:33:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Dennis Diemand
PO Box 43
Cataumet, MA 02534

From: [Betsy Sowers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:31:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Betsy Sowers
48 Sandtrap Cir
South Weymouth, MA 02190

From: [Susan Holland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:14:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Susan Holland
35 Todd Pond Rd
Lincoln, MA 01773

From: [Alan J Nishman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:41:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Alan J Nishman
23 O'Neill Rd
Haydenville, MA 01039

From: [Blithe Hogan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:28:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Blithe Hogan
29 Drummer Rd
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Robert Chmielinski](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:20:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Robert Chmielinski
2001 Marina Dr Apt 401 Unit 401
Unit 401
Quincy, MA 02171

From: [Maureen Price](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:56:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Maureen Price
363 Walden St
Unit G
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Todd Atkins](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:55:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Todd Atkins
71 messenger st
912
Plainville, MA 02762

From: [Mary Lou Crimmins](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:26:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Mary Lou Crimmins
50 Winchester St
Unit 201
Brookline, MA 02446

From: [Jean Glassman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:19:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jean Glassman
89 Newport St
Arlington, MA 02476

From: [John Pelletier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:14:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
John Pelletier
92 Central Ave
N/A
Newton, MA 02460

From: [Richard Legault](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:12:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Richard Legault
2620 Williams St
Dighton, MA 02715

From: [Brad McDonough](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:08:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Brad McDonough
18 Newbury St.
Woburn, MA 01801

From: [Daphne Stevens](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:04:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a 40 year climate activist and a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Daphne Stevens
56 Firethorn Ln
Northampton, MA 01060

From: [Karen Ziomek Vayda](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:56:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Karen Ziomek Vayda
4 Donna Marie Way
Southampton, MA 01073

From: [Anna Wilcox](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:55:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Anna Wilcox
380 Columbus Ave.
Boston, MA 02116

From: [Alan Berg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:49:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Alan Berg
26 Anne Way
Brewster, MA 02631

From: [Christa Pylant](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:37:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Christa Pylant
33 Smith St
Greenfield, MA 01301

From: [Andrew Costigan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:29:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Andrew Costigan
49 Lovering St
Medway, MA 02053

From: [Odilo Mueller](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:19:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Odilo Mueller
363 N Emerson Rd
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Kenneth Reeves](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:05:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Reeves
69 Border Rd
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Amy Schneider](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 6:01:00 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Amy Schneider
48 Oxford Rd
Newton Center, MA 02459

From: [Deidre Nassar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:57:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Deidre Nassar
30 Mill St
Williamstown, MA 01267

From: [Jack Foresteire](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:46:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jack Foresteire
9 Illinois Rd
Tewksbury, MA 01876

From: [Marjorie Smith](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:39:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Marjorie Smith
25 Stonehedge Rd
Lincoln, MA 01773

From: [Cheryl Dwyer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:38:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Dwyer
86 Magnolia Rd
Swampscott, MA 01907

From: [Brian McPherson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:36:56 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Brian McPherson
23 Oak Knoll Road
Natick, MA 01760

From: [Sebastien Bahloul](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:26:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sebastien Bahloul
8 Barney Hill Rd
Wayland, MA 01778

From: [Bonnie Gorman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:25:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Gorman
222 Rock Island Rd
Quincy, MA 02169

From: [Frank Kreimendahl](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:14:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Frank Kreimendahl
14 Larchmont Ave
Waban, MA 02468

From: [Charlotte Harrington](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:55:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Harrington
120 Hanian Dr
Weymouth, MA 02189

From: [Elizabeth Newton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:49:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Newton
23 Sycamore Rd
Wayland, MA 01778

From: [Tracy Brown](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:39:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Tracy Brown
14 Saint Rose St
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

From: [Richard Grove](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:33:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Richard Grove
749 Head Of The Bay Rd Apt 314 # 7D
Apt 314
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

From: [Richard Riedel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:31:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Richard Riedel
423 New Lenox Rd
Lenox, MA 01240

From: [Deborah Goodman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:26:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Deborah Goodman
65 Atherton Rd Apt 1 1
1
Brookline, MA 02446

From: [Jan Ragusa](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:21:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jan Ragusa
67 Ryan Road Apt 2
Apt 2
Florence, MA 01062

From: [Beth Gehman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:19:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Beth Gehman
141 Marked Tree Rd
Needham, MA 02492

From: [Daniel Dolce](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:14:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Daniel Dolce
124 Castle Rd
Nahant, MA 01908

From: [Laura Durant](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:11:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Laura Durant
6 Rockmere St
Dorchester, MA 02125

From: [Larry McCavitt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:05:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Larry McCavitt
272 Falmouth Woods Rd
East Falmouth, MA 02536

From: [Cynthia Dickinson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:05:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Dickinson
12 Paige Hill Rd
Brimfield, MA 01010

From: [Allen Altman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:05:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Allen Altman
PO Box 441
Great Barrington, MA 01230

From: [Ann Marie Lahaie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:53:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ann Marie Lahaie
30 Kernwood Drive
Lynn
Lynn, MA 01904

From: [Richard Sirull](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:52:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Richard Sirull
81 Jerrold St
Holliston, MA 01746

From: [Richard Sirull](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:52:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Richard Sirull
81 Jerrold St
Holliston, MA 01746

From: [Carol Esler](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:50:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Carol Esler
16 Oakhurst Rd
Hopkinton, MA 01748

From: [Jennifer Sawyer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:49:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Sawyer
33 Cavanaugh Rd
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

From: [Rui Ponte](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:45:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Rui Ponte
43 Holworthy St
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Marie Haggerty](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:41:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

I actually saw a right whale and hope that we can protect them so that they can be seen and NOT hurt by humans.

Thank you,
Marie

Sincerely,
Marie Haggerty
173 Westford Rd
Tyngsboro, MA 01879

From: [Christine E Linderman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:32:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a Massachusetts resident, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. This will go far in ultimately providing a long term solution to this problem.

Again, thank you for your actions thus far, and please consider the addition of a pathway to eventual adoption of ropeless fishing gear.

Sincerely,
Christine E Linderman
277 Riverside Dr
Florence, MA 01062

From: [Wendy Fossa](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:30:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Wendy Fossa
78 Belcher St
Essex, MA 01929

From: [Joel Maguire](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:13:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Cape Cod who has spent the majority of his life in, on, and under the water, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy, matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Joel Maguire
144 Meadow Ln
West Barnstable, MA 02668

From: [Nilah M. MacDonald](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:08:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Nilah M. MacDonald
25 Whortleberry Ln
Scituate, MA 02066

From: [Michael Stuart](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:01:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Michael Stuart
11 Arlington Street
Apt #
Auburn, MA 01501

From: [Shelley Hartz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:47:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Shelley Hartz
7 Baron Way
Littleton, MA 01460

From: [Kathryn Cuffe](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:40:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Cuffe
8 Lafayette
Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Kathryn Leach](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:36:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Leach
38 Gorham St
Arlington, MA 02474

From: [Maggie Kilduff](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:25:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Maggie Kilduff
631 Cambridge St
Brighton, MA 02135

From: [Sonja Baris](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:22:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sonja Baris
86 Grove St
Clinton, MA 01510

From: [Amy Sophia Marashinsky](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:13:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Amy Sophia Marashinsky
89 Pine Grove
Amherst, MA 01002

From: [Donna Austin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:12:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Donna Austin
12 Queen Anne Ln
Hingham, MA 02043

From: [Walt Gowly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:10:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Walt Gowly
154 Ball Hill Rd
Princeton, MA 01541

From: [Peter Fox](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:07:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Peter Fox
865 Central Ave Apt B503
Unit B503
Needham, MA 02492

From: [Jeremiah Mew](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:05:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jeremiah Mew
197 Henry St
Amherst, MA 01002

From: [Tim Breeze-Thorndike](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:03:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species. I've been lucky enough to see these amazing animals swimming in our waters and want to make sure that continues.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Tim Breeze-Thorndike
191 Eliot St
Apt 3
Milton, MA 02186

From: [Susan Lemont](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:01:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Susan Lemont
90 Robbins Rd
Arlington, MA 02476

From: [Dorthee W](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 2:00:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Dorthee W
141 Montague Rd
Wendell, MA 01379

From: [Brock Cordeiro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:59:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Brock Cordeiro
15 Sagamore Dr
Dartmouth, MA 02748

From: [Melanie Wallace](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:51:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Melanie Wallace
135 Kirkstall Rd
Newtonville, MA 02460

From: [Judy Stetson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:50:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Judy Stetson
261 Quissett Ave.
Woods Hole, MA 02543

From: [Scout Perry](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:46:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Scout Perry
86 Corey Road
3
Boston, MA 02135

From: [Richard Hassinger](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:35:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Richard Hassinger
10 Church St
Newton, MA 02458

From: [Emily Wensberg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:31:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Emily Wensberg
112 Hancock St Apt 1
Somerville, MA 02144

From: [Jane Sutton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:30:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jane Sutton
11 Mason St
Lexington, MA 02421

From: [Mary Weissenberger](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:27:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Mary Weissenberger
53 Summit Ave
Salem, MA 01970

From: [Melinda Hall](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:27:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Melinda Hall
12 Oyster Pond Rd
Falmouth, MA 02540

From: [Leda Zimmerman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:26:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Leda Zimmerman
7 Linmoor Ter
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Donald Williams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:24:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Donald Williams
81 College Ave
Somerville, MA 02144

From: [Loraine Ferrara](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:23:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Loraine Ferrara
76 Newton Ave
Braintree, MA 02184

From: [Charles Gordon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:20:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Charles Gordon
5209 Great Meadow Rd
Dedham, MA 02026

From: [Louis Irwin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:17:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Louis Irwin
6 Turtleback Rd
Essex, MA 01929

From: [Tallessyn Grenfell-Lee](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:15:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a devout United Methodist, I am heartbroken at the needless suffering of our beautiful fellow creatures. I believe that it is possible to co-exist and work in ways that do not lead to needless suffering, decline, and extinction, but instead lead to abundance and resilience. We need creatures like whales in order to have the healthy ecosystems on which our very lives depend.

I grew up near the ocean in New England, and I have been amazingly blessed to have taken 2 whale watching trips in my life in which I saw these amazing creatures. I am particularly concerned about North Atlantic right whales, an incredible but at-risk species.

I am heartened by your work with the Division of Marine Fisheries in drafting proposed regulations that can help these amazing creatures, and therefore, all of us, survive and thrive.

I write today because it is my understanding that ropeless fishing gear would also go a long way toward preventing the needless suffering and decline of these and other sea creatures. I hope you and the others involved can creatively find ways to develop and implement strategies for ropeless gear, and I also hope you find a way to put this agenda into the proposal.

Best wishes for a healing and hopeful Advent.

Sincerely,
Tallessyn Grenfell-Lee
26 Juniper Rd
Marlborough, MA 01752

From: [Dean Langmuir](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:10:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Dean Langmuir
80 Deaconess Rd
Unit 131
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Eileen Lawlor](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:07:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Eileen Lawlor
PO Box 633
Monterey, MA 01245

From: [Sara Johnston](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:59:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sara Johnston
PO Box 28
Po Box 28
Rochester, MA 02770

From: [Mary Glynn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:54:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Mary Glynn
29 Leach Ln
Natick, MA 01760

From: [Liz Field](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:50:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Liz Field
16 Windingwood Ln
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Linda Agerbak](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:48:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Linda Agerbak
42 Thorndike St
Arlington, MA 02474

From: [Jean Williams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:47:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jean Williams
251 Buckminster Dr
251 Buckminster Drive
Norwood, MA 02062

From: [Jennifer Thornton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:41:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Thornton
331 Long Plain Rd
Leverett, MA 01054

From: [Kate Hermann](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:40:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kate Hermann
1306 Trapelo Rd.
Waltham, MA 02451

From: [Norman Douglas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:39:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Norman Douglas
6 Lake Ave
Gt Barrington, MA 01230

From: [James Denis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:38:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
James Denis
23 Boardman St
Salem, MA 01970

From: [Andrea Cohen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:37:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem. Please protect these animals!

Sincerely,
Andrea Cohen
22 Freedom Farm Rd
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Heather Fox](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:36:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Heather Fox
9 Lorin Dr
Wilmington, MA 01887

From: [James Hadcroft](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:36:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

James K Hadcroft here.

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
James Hadcroft
356 Gifford St
Falmouth, MA 02540

From: [Carole McAuliffe](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:35:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Carole McAuliffe
40 Way 35 Off Briar
Wellfleet, MA 02667

From: [Grace Diemand](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:33:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Grace Diemand
PO Box 43
Cataumet, MA 02534

From: [Grace Diemand](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:33:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Grace Diemand
PO Box 43
Cataumet, MA 02534

From: [Peter Roberts](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:33:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Peter Roberts
15 Prospect Ave
Scituate, MA 02066

From: [Dennis Diemand](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:32:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Dennis Diemand
PO Box 43
Cataumet, MA 02534

From: [Joy Johnson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:29:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Joy Johnson
398 Millstone Rd
Brewster, MA 02631

From: [David Kechley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:29:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
David Kechley
400 Pine Cobble Rd
Williamstown
Williamstown, MA 01267

From: [Robert H. Welch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:28:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Robert H. Welch
5 Summit Pl
Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Thomas Bahr](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:28:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Thomas Bahr
19 Cliffview Ter
Lunenburg, MA 01462

From: [Jon Lees](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:21:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jon Lees
125 Chesterfield Rd
Westhampton, MA 01027

From: [Brooke Dyer Bennet](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:17:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Brooke Dyer Bennet
62 Claybrook Rd
Sunderland, MA 01375

From: [Kathleen Lewis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:16:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Lewis
250 Furnace Brook Pkwy Unit 3
Unit 3
Quincy, MA 02169

From: [Ron Riggert](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:15:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ron Riggert
133 Moore Rd
Sudbury, MA 01776

From: [John Cox](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:14:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
John Cox
10 Leland Rd
Natick, MA 01760

From: [Carole Smudin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:13:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Carole Smudin
PO Box 123
Po Box 123
Bridgewater, MA 02324

From: [Jason Menard](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:13:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jason Menard
277 Bay Rd
Belchertown, MA 01007

From: [Gail Fleischaker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:12:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Gail Fleischaker
62 W Pelham Rd
Shutesbury, MA 01072

From: [Hugh Joseph](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:11:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Hugh Joseph
676 Hammond St
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

From: [Andrew Puchrik](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:10:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Andrew Puchrik
164 Belknap St
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Allison Schnipper](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:07:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Allison Schnipper
30 Sandy Ridge Cir
Sharon, MA 02067

From: [Jeanne Hobbie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:05:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Hobbie
11 Olde Surrey Dr
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Kathleen M Berigan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:03:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Thank you very much.

Most sincerely,
Kathleen M Berigan
Conservation Commissioner
Cohasset, MA

Sincerely,
Kathleen M Berigan
646 Jerusalem Rd.
Unit 8
Cohasset, MA 02025

From: [Donald Morgan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:02:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Donald Morgan
5 Ideal Ave
Chelmsford, MA 01824

From: [Chrysa DaCosta](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:01:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Chrysa DaCosta
13 Parsonage Ln
Topsfield, MA 01983

From: [Andy Berkvist](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:01:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Andy Berkvist
15 Bright St
Northampton, MA 01060

From: [Mary Dudek](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:01:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Mary Dudek
12 Old Goshen Rd
Williamsburg, MA 01096

From: [Lee Roberts](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:57:56 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Lee Roberts
3 Kenilworth Rd
Winchester, MA 01890

From: [Amy Thompson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:55:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Amy Thompson
57 Jay St
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [Carol Foley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:54:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Carol Foley
105 Chestnut St
Wilmington, MA 01887

From: [Sarah Duncklee](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:53:56 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sarah Duncklee
16 Gregory St
Marblehead, MA 01945

From: [Moir Ashleigh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:53:55 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Moir Ashleigh
9 Buck Street
9 Buck St
Woburn, MA 01801

From: [George Scribner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:53:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
George Scribner
140 N Plain Rd
Great Barrington, MA 01230

From: [Katherine Levin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:53:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Katherine Levin
32 Barker Rd Apt 2
#2
Scituate, MA 02066

From: [Sara Brydges](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:51:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sara Brydges
24 Martha's Point Rd
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Sid Siff](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:47:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sid Siff
Main Street
Apt 1
Amherst, MA 01002

From: [Joyce Devlin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:46:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Joyce Devlin
6 Holly Ave
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Anne Legene](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:44:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Anne Legene
69 Welcome St
Great Barrington, MA 01230

From: [JoAnne Larsen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:41:43 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
JoAnne Larsen
99 Goose Pond Rd
Lee, MA 01238

From: [Ryan Houlette](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:40:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ryan Houlette
11 Newman St
Cambridge, MA 02140

From: [Kennieth Burwood](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:37:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kennieth Burwood
267 Willis Ave
Medford, MA 02155

From: [Cynthia Campbell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:36:10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Campbell
12 Cleveland St
Arlington, MA 02474

From: [Michael Stone](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:33:57 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Michael Stone
10 Telegraph Hill Rd
Unit 24
Falmouth, MA 02540

From: [Dennis DiTullio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:33:44 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Dennis DiTullio
16 Little John Rd
Hatchville, MA 02536

From: [R. Tippens](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:33:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
R. Tippens
68 Van Nuys Rd
Colrain, MA 01340

From: [Don Hnatowich](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:31:58 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Don Hnatowich
65 Naples Rd
Brookline, MA 02446

From: [David Russell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:31:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
David Russell
9 Prescott Rd
Ipswich, MA 01938

From: [John Seybold](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:31:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
John Seybold
143 Belknap St
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Roxy Gray](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:30:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Roxy Gray
5 Paddock Cir
Canton, MA 02021

From: [Sarah Stewart](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:28:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sarah Stewart
85 Garfield St
Watertown, MA 02472

From: [Sherry Weiland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:25:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sherry Weiland
144 Brook St
Hudson, MA 01749

From: [Jessica Barnett](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:25:11 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jessica Barnett
100 Paddock Ln Apt 1110
Boxborough, MA 01719

From: [Jonathan Kennedy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:25:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Kennedy
43 Taylor Hill Rd
Montague, MA 01351

From: [Christine Roane](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:24:37 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Christine Roane
123 Bronson Ter
Address Line 2
Springfield, MA 01108

From: [James Rogers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:24:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
James Rogers
46 Cogswell
Apt 6
Cambridge, MA 02140

From: [Jennifer Salhus](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:21:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Salhus
6 Naugatuck Avenue
Norfolk, MA 02056

From: [Ardis Johnston](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:21:28 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Ardis Johnston
994 West St
Stoughton, MA 02072

From: [Kathleen Richards](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:21:26 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Richards
92 Lakeside Dr
Monson, MA 01057

From: [Heidi Friedman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:19:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Heidi Friedman
88 Munroe St
Somerville, MA 02143

From: [Christopher Hughes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:19:35 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Christopher Hughes
18 Crestview Dr
18 Crestview Drive
Westborough, MA 01581

From: [Michael Boss](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:18:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Michael Boss
3 McKinley Dr
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Katie Maloney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:18:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Katie Maloney
6 Walnut Ter # 2
Newtonville, MA 02460

From: [Robert Race](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:17:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Robert Race
50 Shore Dr
Pittsfield, MA 01201

From: [Miriam Kurland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:17:43 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Miriam Kurland
566 East St
Williamsburg, MA 01096

From: [Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:17:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller
63 Gay Street
Quincy, MA 02169

From: [Mary Sterling](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:17:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Mary Sterling
59 Hunters Ridge Rd
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Jay Alexander](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:16:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Jay Alexander
37 North St
Belchertown, MA 01007

From: [Erin Haugh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:14:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Erin Haugh
15 Grist Mill Ln
Hampden, MA 01036

From: [Dianne Bhattacharyya](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:14:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Dianne Bhattacharyya
6D Heritage Way
S Deerfield, MA 01373

From: [Vidya Sivan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:13:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Vidya Sivan
20 Penniman Rd
Apt. 3
Boston, MA 02134

From: [Sally Kiebdaj](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:12:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Sally Kiebdaj
15 Newman Way
Cambridge, MA 02476

From: [Isabella O'Connor](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:11:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Isabella O'Connor
21 Wellesley College Rd Unit 6425
Wellesley, MA 02481

From: [Gerald Beetham](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:11:28 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

I also urge the Commonwealth to consider subsidies to help fishermen overcome the higher costs of ropeless gear.

Sincerely,
Gerald Beetham
Tupelo dr.
Harwich, MA 02645

From: [Robert Berry](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:11:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Robert Berry
41 Mill St
Apt. #213
Marion, MA 02738

From: [Marian Lipke](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:11:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Marian Lipke
122 Holly Tree Ln
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

From: [June Davenport](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:11:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
June Davenport
P. O. Box 228
24 Boylston Avenue
Princeton, MA 01541

From: [Robert Beede](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:10:40 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Robert Beede
1696 Monument Street
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Fredric Moscovitz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:10:28 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Fredric Moscovitz
11 Mays Field Rd
Lunenburg, MA 01462

From: [Judith Cooper](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:10:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Judith Cooper
9 Jean Rd
Lexington, MA 02421

From: [Pete LeDoux](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:10:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Pete LeDoux
240 Hillcrest Rd
Marshfield, MA 02050

From: [Barbara Darling-Smith](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:09:43 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Barbara Darling-Smith
44 Caldwell St.
Weymouth, MA 02191

From: [Paul Danielian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:09:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Paul Danielian
7 Bates Rd Apt 1
Apt 1
Arlington, MA 02474

From: [Elana Katz rose](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:09:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Elana Katz rose
1 Pond View Cir
Sharon, MA 02067

From: [Mona Young](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:08:41 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Mona Young
24 Mahaiwe Street
2
Great Barrington, MA 01230

From: [Peter Cutting](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:08:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Peter Cutting
15 N. Main St
Charlton, MA 01507

From: [Cody Sullivan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:07:58 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Cody Sullivan
447 Commercial St.
Provincetown, MA 02657

From: [Teresia LaFleur](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:07:38 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Teresia LaFleur
40 Bigelow Dr
Sudbury, MA 01776

From: [Robert Deysher](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:07:37 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Robert Deysher
21 Lackey St
Westborough, MA 01581

From: [Maureen Wooster](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:06:41 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Maureen Wooster
6 Buckskin Ln
Natick, MA 01760

From: [John Mason](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:06:15 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
John Mason
122 Barton Dr
Sudbury, MA 01776

From: [Janka Lovering](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:06:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Janka Lovering
8 Poplar Rd
Apt 1
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Justin Small](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 11:06:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Justin Small
5-B Notre Dame Street
Westfield, MA 01085

From: [Aly Fogel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:48:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

Sincerely,
Aly Fogel
24 Beacon St
Boston, MA 02133

From: [Susanna Chivian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:34:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

RE: Do everything you can to save North Atlantic right whales

null

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a resident of Massachusetts, where the ocean forms an integral part of our state identity, keeping our beaches, coasts, and marine species and habitats healthy matters deeply to me. North Atlantic right whales, which swim in Massachusetts' waters, are one of our most at-risk species.

First, I'd like to thank you and the Division of Marine Fisheries for drafting a strong proposed rule. In particular, I was glad to see the inclusion of more seasonal closures to fishing during the time of year that right whales are likely to be in the area. This is the type of bold action we'll need to save these whales.

I write today to urge you to include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. We know that the best way to prevent entanglements is to remove rope from the water, and the development and adoption of ropeless gear will provide a long term solution to this problem.

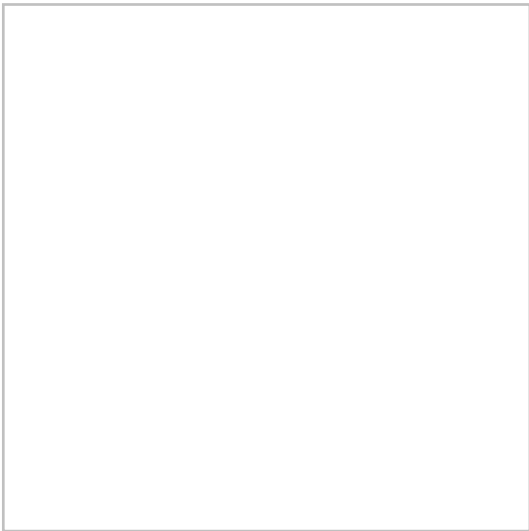
Sincerely,
Susanna Chivian
21 Cottage St
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [House of Hope Inc](#)
To: [Fall_Memo \(FWF\)](#)
Subject: House of Hope Fall/Winter Newsletter
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 6:01:50 AM



The New Normal

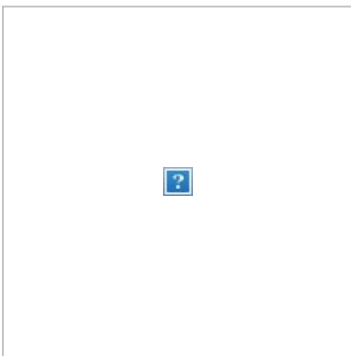
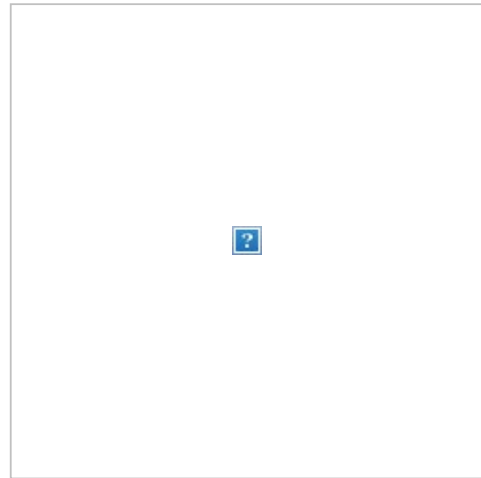
On top of a global pandemic and the hardships of being homeless, our families have also had to deal with sending their children to school and with the unfamiliar world of remote learning. Read more about how our team has supported the schoolchildren living under our roof, and how duties have changed with the changing times, in the



[newsletter.](#)

The Hope Chest Returns

The Hope Chest, our clothing store at 397 Market St. in Lowell has once again opened its doors. We follow strict guidelines around mask-wearing and social-distancing to keep our staff and customers safe and healthy, and are open limited hours but with the same affordable prices. [Read more here.](#)



How You Can Help

As a result of COVID-19, House of Hope has had to make a few changes to the ways we can accept help from our community. While we are limiting in-person donations to our shelters, we would be grateful for any donations purchased and shipped through our online [Amazon Wish List](#) or [Walmart List](#). [Read more about our most needed items.](#)



House of Hope Inc

812 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01854
(978) 458 2870



House of Hope Inc | 812 Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA 01854

[Unsubscribe marine.fish@state.ma.us](mailto:marine.fish@state.ma.us)

[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by jennifer.sharkey@houseofhopelowell.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

**CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY * DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL**

December 15, 2020

Daniel McKiernan
Director
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
marine.fish@mass.gov

Re: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing

Dear Director McKiernan,

On behalf of Conservation Law Foundation, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, and the Natural Resources Defense Council, please accept these comments regarding the proposed amendments to regulations at 322 CMR 6.00, 7.00, and 12.00, designed to reduce the risk of North Atlantic right whales becoming entangled in fixed fishing gear.¹

The species' future is in doubt without immediate action. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) recently determined that since 2017 alone, fishing gear entanglements and vessel strikes have killed or seriously injured at least 32 right whales and another 13 whales have been found dead from undetermined causes. Recent information indicates the actual number of right whale deaths is higher, averaging 24 whales per year. And in the last decade, the population has decreased by 25 percent—a wholly unsustainable rate of loss. Every individual must be protected to avoid the species' extinction. These new regulations will reduce the risk that right whales will continue to be entangled, seriously injured, and killed in Massachusetts state waters.

The regulations proposed by the Division of Marine Fisheries (MA DMF) are a big step in the right direction given the increasing use of Massachusetts state waters by right whales to seasonally forage in winter and spring. As part of its recent submission to NMFS associated with the upcoming rulemaking to amend the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan, MA DMF described the importance of Cape Cod Bay:

Approximately 65% of the known right whale population visits Cape Cod Bay each year. This is the largest known aggregation of North Atlantic right whales in the world. In a single day in April 2017, a total of 179 right whales were observed in Cape Cod Bay. This represents a peak observed density of 10 right whales/cubic mile of water. To put this in perspective, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, an area which hosts large aggregations of right whales in recent years and has been the epicenter of an Unusual Mortality Event since 2017, has only ever reached a known peak density of 0.012 whales per cubic mile of water, in June 2018. This underscores the importance of the Massachusetts Bay

¹ November 13, 2020. Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearings on New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fisheries. MA Division of Marine Fisheries. <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/proposed-amendments-to-division-of-marine-fisheries-regulations>.

**CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY * DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL**

Restricted Area (MBRA) as an effective means of eliminating entanglements.²

However, recent right whale sightings (2017 to present) demonstrate that right whales frequently use Cape Cod Bay in the shoulder months (January and May).³ Thus, the current closure between February 1 and April 30 is not be sufficient to protect right whales as they transit to and from other important foraging habitats south, east, and north of this area.

As it stands now, the only effective ways to reduce this risk are to: (1) close certain areas at certain times to fixed gear fishing, and (2) reduce the number of vertical lines in the water column when fishing is allowed. **Specifically, we support these proposed Fixed Gear Closures and Trap Gear Restrictions:**

1. Extending the commercial trap/pot closure to all state waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth (322 CMR 12.04, 12.08, & 12.11);
2. Expanding the size of the gillnet closure in Cape Cod Bay to include Gurnet Point and Scituate Harbor (322 CMR 12.04, 12.08, and 12.12);
3. Retaining the authority to extend these two closures, if whales are present (322 CMR 12.04);
4. Closing the recreational trap/pot fishery between Columbus Day and Memorial Day (322 CMR 6.02); and
5. Prohibiting fishing with singles on vessels greater than 29 feet (322 CMR 12.06).

However, given the urgency of the right whale's situation and the critical importance of Massachusetts state waters, we believe MA DMF must implement additional protective measures. **Therefore, we also urge the State to:**

- 1. Extend the trap/pot closure so that it begins on January 1;**
- 2. Develop a trigger for additional closures for those times when right whales aggregate outside of the closure time periods;**
- 3. Extend vessel speed restrictions to all state waters between January 1 and May 15;**
- 4. Require gear markings on all lines every 40 feet; and**
- 5. Require a vessel tracking system on all commercially permitted vessels.**

We do not support weak rope as a long-term solution. *See* 322 CMR 12.02 and 12.06. Although we are fully aware of the academic research supporting a hypothesis that weak rope may decrease the frequency or severity of entanglements, this hypothesis has not been empirically

tested or proven. Although the proposed regulations codifying the requirements for a 1700-lb contrivance and maximum buoy line diameters might eventually be demonstrated to reduce the

² Mass. Div. of Marine Fisheries, 2020 Massachusetts Right Whale Conservation Plan (2020) at 2, <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-right-whale-conservation-plan-2020/download>.

³ *See* NMFS, *NOAA Right Whale Sightings Advisory System*, <https://apps.nefsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/psb/surveys/MapperiframeWithText.html>; *see also* Whale Map: Latest Right Whale Observations, <https://whalemap.ocean.dal.ca/#map>; Center for Coastal Studies, *Field Notes 2019*, <https://coastalstudies.org/right-whale-research/field-notes/field-notes-2018-2019/> (last visited Dec. 1, 2020).

**CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY * DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL**

number of adult North Atlantic right whale deaths, entanglements in weak rope or narrow rope will still adversely affect the reproductive success of the species. Moreover, any entanglement is still a prohibited “take” under the ESA. Finally, weak rope affords little protection to other vulnerable marine life such as humpbacks, sea turtles, and young right whales, all of which are federally protected under the Endangered Species Act and/or Marine Mammal Protection Act.

To conclude, we specifically address comments made during the hearings related to on-demand or “ropeless” fishing. We fully support on-demand fishing but given that the technology is still evolving and that the Bay has the highest seasonal density of right whales in the world, we cannot advocate for unrestricted use or expedited permitting until there is a larger conversation about the relative risks associated with such fishing in the Bay. As an interim step, we recommend that MA DMF lead the conversation on next steps for on-demand fisheries in State waters and strongly suggest that these conversations include input from regulators, fishermen, scientists, and conservationists.

Respectfully submitted this 15th day of December, 2020,



Erica Fuller, Senior Attorney
Conservation Law Foundation
efuller@clf.org



Kristen Monsell, Oceans Legal Director
Center for Biological Diversity
kmonsell@biologicaldiversity.org



Jane Davenport, Senior Attorney
Defenders of Wildlife
jdavenport@defenders.org



Francine Kershaw, Ph.D., Staff Scientist
Natural Resources Defense Council
fkershaw@nrdc.org

From: [Wendy Hollis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:24:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [John Thomson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:58:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Sharon Kuong](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:32:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [James McKowen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:28:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Theodora Boura](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:58:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [katie lane](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:12:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Louisa Wellington](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:12:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [DAVE MAGEE](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Proposal of Commercial Trap Gear Closure
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:44:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director McKiernan,

I am opposed to the Proposal of fixed gear February 1 to April 30th Trap Closure in Massachusetts State Waters.

Understanding the true effects of the Proposal of fixed gear February 1 – April 30th Trap Closure in Massachusetts State Waters. Reality of closing is that it could take up to one month to pull traps out of the water for actual closure for February 1 – April 30th. This in return creates extra expenses on both ends (Feb & April) and a loss of more income. Many factors play into this equation that simply can't be predicted. Weather conditions in which allow vessels to go out to pull gear in the month of January. The number of traps each vessel can physically bring gear in and out at a time.

Lobstering as a livelihood is a very difficult way of life. Nothing is written in stone making it very unpredictable. Lobstering is unlike most normal careers. In normal careers, people work a set amount of hours a week to make a living, and or to make a set amount of income. With Lobstering, EVERYTHING depends on the weather, and by weather I simply don't mean it being bright and sunny. I mean, the tides, the wind, and the swells, along with the water temperature. All these variables are different for each individual lobsterman. Due to individual's vessel, availability, manpower and so many other factors, that simply can't be explained in a sentence or two.

Personally, I fish approximately 36 trips From February to April, (approximate break down two weekly trips in February, three weekly trips in March and four weekly trips in April). Again this is an approximation because it truly varies year to year.

I fish Massachusetts Area 2 Southern New England and been fishing there for 40 years. This closure will severely affect my business and the ability to support my family. Massachusetts Area 2 has had more regulations than any other Area in Massachusetts. In the 40 years I have been fishing, State regulations have been put in place with very little consideration to the livelihoods of fishermen. Approximately 20+ years ago we were given trap allocations limiting us to 800 traps. Reducing my traps from 2000 traps down to 800 traps was catastrophic. Regulations were implemented ONLY to Area 2 had a larger gauge size. Over the last 5 years we were given ANOTHER regulation of a 50% trap reduction. Regulations to protect the right whales have been implemented, such as the conversion to non-floating rope was applied to all fixed gear. This regulation although extremely costly at the time was done for the protection of right whales and all other whales. This next proposal of fixed gear trap closure will probably put me and other Area 2 lobster fisherman out of business.

There have been no right whale entanglements in the 40 years that I've been fishing in Area 2 Massachusetts State Waters. We have a good winter and spring fishery. February through April the lobster prices are at their highest. I along with most full time lobstermen that fish Area 2 Massachusetts State waters make approximately

30% of our income in those three months. By going through with this proposal I along with most of these other lobstermen will not be able to survive this closure. Closing Area 2 Massachusetts State Waters will have absolutely no effect on the right whale survival. This proposal is SIMPLY to appease the environmental groups trying to save the whales.

What needs to be understood about this proposal is that this income simply cannot be made up in the other months. Trips cannot be simply added on during the other months. Again, due to regulations that have been previously set forth by the state. Reduction in the amount of traps allowed to be fished and trap tag allocation. Thus making it impossible to simply “make up the lost trips by adding more trips”(i.e. traps need to set for a certain amount of time, before they can be hauled.) The amount of traffic that transpires during the other months, loss of gear due to that traffic, availability of employees, and so many other factors. All of which also includes the unpredictability of weather.

There are around 20–25 full time lobstermen that fish Area 2 Massachusetts State Waters compared to 780 for the entire state of Massachusetts. This closure will do absolutely nothing for the right whales and will probably destroy the livelihood of the few fishermen left in Massachusetts Area 2 lobster fishery. We simply cannot sustain any more regulations or closures.

Think of it this way, what would you do if you were told that you now have to do your job and take an immediate cut in pay of 30%, no questions asked. More than likely you might think about getting another job. The problem here is that we simply can't just go get another job. We have not only our life invested, which includes monetary, and nautical/skills knowledge, but also usually our entire financial portfolio.

Thus this proposal of closing fixed gear for Massachusetts State waters February 1st – April 30th is simply and completely unreasonable. Especially because the closure will have absolutely no effect on the right whales. There has not been a documented right whale death due to rope entanglement from a Massachusetts Area 2 State Water fisherman.

Area 2 Lobsterman should not have to suffer, be blamed or pay for right whale deaths or rope entanglements. Most documented whale deaths are due to ship strikes, of which regulations have been implemented for ships to regulate their speed.

The only consequence on the implementation of this proposal Commercial Trap Gear Closure February 1-April 30th is that Area 2 Lobstermen livelihoods will be destroyed. It will have absolutely no effect on any right whale or any whale for that matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Dave Magee

From: jasongale2@aol.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: jasongale2@aol.com; rgale242@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed lobster fishery closure
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 10:24:43 AM
Attachments: [Screenshot_20201215-070547~2.png](#)
[Screenshot_20201215-070522~2.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dan ,

After reading into this further , I see that you're finally including the seasonal student permits , as well as , the recreational permits to be further regulated along with us commercial guys.

THANK YOU for That!

I'd like to make a few points regarding some of these proposals. I understand the predicament you are in , its tough to keep all sides happy, but I'm hoping we use a little common sense to adjust these proposals.

- Instead of a maximum vessel length of 29' for vessels to fish singles , why not say no singles outside of 1/2 mile from the beach? We coastal guys fish trawls out in the tide and singles in 15' of water close to the beach (its most efficient this way, and safer) . Also what do you do about buzzards bay and south of the Elizabeth islands where lobster trawls are prohibited ?

My current boat is 28' but my boat that is under construction is 38'(could I be grandfathered?) , I want to continue to fish singles on the beach , this proposal goes through my new boat will be useless and its due here mid January.

- Why not put a temporary moratorium on the seasonal student permits , until more data is collected , or at the very least cut those permits back to 15 traps?

- The off season closure for recreational trap fishing is a great start , but as I've mentioned to you in the past , the commercial guys allocations have been cut back so dramatically , Why not cut the rec permits to 5 traps? I'm not sure of the yearly amount of rec permits issued , but I'm sure cutting the number of traps to 5 will drastically improve the number of vertical lines in the water.

I know that opposing the commercial closure probably won't do much good , but my hope is that maybe tweaking these proposals it will offer up a little compromise between these groups that seem way too far apart at the moment.

Please let me know that this email has been read.

Thank you ,
Jason Gale F/V Watch Out
774-563-8857

From: [reeldeaded](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Protected Species Public Comment
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:14:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director McKiernan and the MA Fisheries Commission,

I write to you not as a commercial lobsterman, but as a sportsman, an environmentalist, a wharf rat, and seafood consumer. I have been following the situation regarding the North Atlantic right whale since the early 2000s. The current state of affairs is tragic. To think that just 10 years ago, this was the promising story about an endangered species on the rebound and in the decade sense we have lost all those gains and the species again on the precipice of extinction.

Unfortunately, this species faces a number of complex challenges that complicate its recovery. It is a migratory species that needs to feed on reliable densities of plankton as it travels. We know that changing oceanographic conditions - likely a byproduct of climate change - are affecting the time-area distribution of plankton. As a result, plankton is less dense in times and areas where the right whales need it. This causes physical stress to the animals by requiring them to travel further to feed and to do so with less nutrition. Additionally, by altering migratory patterns the species is now found in areas ill prepared to regulate and manage the threats posed by vessel strikes and interactions with fixed fishing gear, particularly in areas like the mouth of the St. Lawrence river where there is substantial shipping traffic and high densities of heavy lobster and crab fishing gear.

We down here in Massachusetts have a congested urban coastline, but we are also used to dealing with the right whale and have been leaders for a quarter century. The federal government has established real-time vessel monitoring controls alerting mariners to the presence of these whales to reduce the risk of ship strikes. Similarly, the state and federal government have rules affecting vessel speed in areas where densities are right whales are known to occur. The fishing industry has been required to adopt gear modifications and suffer closures to reduce the entanglement risk. I've seen the Yankee ingenuity of my port's lobstermen first hand, as they work hard to solve the engineering, political, and economic challenges posed by continuing right whale conservation efforts.

I know that the Massachusetts lobster industry has often been a begrudging partner in right whale conservation, but they have been a partner nevertheless. I also think they have some obvious and legitimate frustrations with managing towards potential risk or zero risk, which produces a never ending set of new burdens. However, they are also a unique group of small businessmen. They take conservation seriously and have shown a willingness to help

fix solvable problems. Their livelihood is inexorably tied to their ability to do this and they are acutely aware of that reality. Time after time, these business owners have been required to reconfigure operations, both as a matter of care and a matter of wallet. Too frequently, these adjustments force them to become less efficient and less profitable, and unfortunately, sometimes also less safe.

It's hard not to take begrudging stances and sound off your frustrations when faced with this reality. In fact, many of these lobstermen should be commended for their diplomacy. I'm not sure we'd all be so genuine and reserved if this was our livelihood on the line. I think this is a reality that is obvious along our working waterfronts, but not in our urban areas, leafy suburbs, and college campuses where the NGOs canvass and fund raise. This has created a substantial gulf in understanding what is feasible and what is a death blow to a legacy industry.

Last week, with the aid of some scotch, I listened in to both of your public hearings. This gulf in opinion was evident. I heard the impassioned pleas by conservationists advocating that we must do all we can to save the whales, including going above and beyond the state's proposal. I also heard earnest comments from frustrated fisherman who felt the state's rules to close the Sounds and Buzzards Bay and prohibit single traps were arbitrary and would carry excessive economic burden compared to risk reduction. Lastly, I heard from state officials who seem to be in the crossfire trying to thread a needle among a federal lawsuit and a federal government that has decided that dragging its feet is a political goal rather than a means to accommodate a better solution.

I don't envy your decision making on this. I think most of what is being proposed by the state is doable and sensible. However, I'm not certain there is a real risk reduction benefit to enacting a closure in Buzzards Bay. This is not the Gulf of Maine, the industry in this area is consolidated and the resource is scarce. Losing the winter fishery would impose additional economic hardships with what I assume is negligible risk reduction to a negligible risk. Unfortunately, I think the cold reality is that this fishery will be sacrificed to help obtain the federal take permit so that the fishery north of the Cape may continue.

The comments on the single trap requirements were also interesting. Some Cape Cod fishermen indicated that being forced to trawl up would gravely impact their safety and fishing operations. However, my understanding of the proposal is that "trawl up" can include going to fishing two traps on a string, not having to fish long trawls. I'm uncertain how going from fishing singles to fishing doubles would generate these problems. I wish the fishermen would have been pressed on this a bit more so that the public could have a greater understanding of the problem. Moreover, I wish the timeline for moving forward with the state regulations was less truncated so that this could be given more consideration. However, I expect that similarly to the southern fishery, the single trap fishery is a sacrificial lamb in the federal take permit application.

I know it was not on the agenda and the state made clear that it wanted to avoid discussion of the subject. However, as others have, I must also take the liberty to comment on the elephant in the room that is ropeless fishing.

Many whale advocates, college students, and other assorted idealists commented in favor of a swift transition to ropeless fishing. These calls were aided by folks in the business of selling and profiting from this technology. They argue this is a necessary step to save the whales and that the technology is more advanced than it is. They want to speak it into existence.

The reality is that a transition to ropeless fishing is a pipedream. There are very real economic and practical challenges to implementing such a system. This is a point that both the Conservation Law Foundation and Whale and Dolphin USA made at one of the hearings. Nevertheless the demands persist. It appears that the ropeless advocates also believe the state is covering for the lobster industry and is negligent in its response to the fact that unicorns are real. As you may be able to tell, I find the call for ropeless fishing to be a poor thought out position that is more a feel good fund raising campaign masquerading a legitimate public policy position.

The technology itself is insufficient. Its advocates like to equivocate that this gear is already used in New Zealand and Australia, so obviously it can be used in Massachusetts. This is comparing apples to beef jerky and anyone with any intellectual honesty recognizes this. My understand is that the rock lobster fisheries in New Zealand and Australia have fewer participants, low gear densities, and are zoned off from mobile gear fisheries. This is not the case in Massachusetts. We have nearly 1,000 fishermen fishing in our coastal waters; our gear densities are significant; and we have multiple gear types fishing the same bottom reliant on surface marking requirements to identify fixed gear locations.

Bottomline, this technology does not function with the spatial resolution necessary to work in Massachusetts. I believe a Canadian ropeless fishing technology advocate stated that the technology works when gear is spaced out by about .25 miles. Unless we greatly shrink the lobster fishery, this resolution is insufficient for Massachusetts'.

If overlooked and implemented, there will be conflicts among fishermen and ultimately fisherman safety issues. To summarize a statement made at one of the hearings, any regulation implemented should ensure that our fishermen get home. I 100% agree with this sentiment. If fishermen are setting over each other, then there is added need to handle gear with additional tension on it. This additional load increases the risk of capsizing, of getting caught in gear, and getting injured or worse by snapping lines. It also makes fishermen less efficient, as they have to spend more time handling gear issues. Additionally, it poses a risk to trawlers or dredge boats that may become snagged on buoy less gear, lose their center of gravity, and capsize. It's not infrequent for fishermen to die because of hang ups or grappling, do we want to increase this risk?

I'm not sure that even the most ardent environmentalist would be willing to take that callous of a position (at least publicly). That's a political loser. Then to implement ropeless it becomes obvious that the state must also discuss downsizing the lobster fleet to reduce gear density and creating user zones to avoid interactions between competing gears.

This will make the razor thin margins facing our working waterfronts even thinner. They'll tell you it's death by 1,000 paper cuts and I wouldn't call them liars. These economic impacts won't just be felt by the lobster industry, they will be felt by the entire working waterfront. The lobster industry is the lifeblood of Massachusetts ports. The lobster fishery supports bait fisheries; the fish mongers who buy their product and the fish houses that sell them fish skins and racks; the gear supply stores and manufacturers that outfit them with traps and ropes; the boatyards and mechanics that service their vessels and engines; the gas stations and ice houses that rely on their commerce; even the truck seal folks get a cut of it. If the lobster industry gets cut at the knees then so does the waterfront.

Then once we scale down the industry and cripple the waterfront, let's talk about the cost of implementing this technology. The state testified at hearing that it would cost more than \$100M to outfit the current MA fishery with ropeless technology. Quick math, that's an initial capital investment of ~\$100,000 per fisherman. That's a staggering investment for small businesses to make in a technology that likely won't work at the resolution it needs to. Moreover, what is the cost of annual maintenance when the gear is lost to storms or gear conflicts? What's the environmental cost to our nearshore waters of more lost gear?

Lastly, to some degree it is a solution in search of a problem. In the past 25-years, MA trap gear has entangled exactly two right whales, and according to the state's testimony at public hearing, these right whales were successfully disentangled. Zero right whale mortalities have been associated with the state's trap fisheries. The risk posed by this gear has been minimized over time through the gear modifications and time-area closures adopted by the state, and the risk will be further minimized through these newly proposed regulations.

We are rapidly approaching a point where we are trying to divide zero and it is now that we seek to impose a costly technological regime shift. Seems indefensible and irresponsible, so it's probably good for fundraising. Stop the Steal; Roadmap to Ropeless - two sides of the same deranged political coin. If the environmentalists want to save the whales and not kill the lobster industry, I'd suggest they focus they set their sites offshore and towards Canada. Look for ways to make the heavy gear fished in these areas less dangerous and address the emerging shipstrike issues.

These problems impeding right whale recovery are trans-national and trans-industry. They are certainly not going to be fixed by this endeavor to impose a ropeless fishing regime in Massachusetts alone. We are at the southernmost point of the commercial fishery for lobster, we represent a small segment of the north Atlantic lobster industry, we boast a family business fleet, we have thoughtful fishermen, a suite of conservation measures not

seen anywhere else, and we have a state with a diverse economy. It's almost as if we are not the problem, but just an easy target ripe for fundraising.

I don't know what your solution is. I know it's not ropeless, but I fear that momentum and sentiment will continue to prevail against common sense. I think your proposals are probably heavy handed in terms of risk-reward to whales, but likely necessary to meet the risk-reward calculation resulting from legal challenges facing the state. It's never ideal to make decisions with a gun to your head. Do what you need to do to keep the wolves at bay and our working waterfronts working. If you can manage to get your federal permit without destroying the waterfront, I'll send the folks at IFAW a lobster dinner.

Cheers,

Ed

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

From: [keren tonnesen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: RE public Comment to Director Daniel McKiernan
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:49:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This is so hopeful. We just had a humpback death on Norton point on MV.
Death from gear entanglement. Barbaric. If people were to see this amazing creature in person they would be moved to action. Please continue to fight for more protections.

We are trying to do our part.

<https://pathwaysmv.org/ma-division-of-marine-fisheries-hearing/>

<https://pathwaysmv.org/oceans-film-series-1-25-2020/>

Keren Tonnesen

Co-Director PathwaysARTS

PathwaysMV.org

508 627 2516

From: [Valli Hamilton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whale Preservation
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 5:07:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please consider ropeless gear as a way to save right whales from extinction. It has a proven effective rate of 98.4%.

Thank you,
Valli Hamilton
Edgartown, MA

From: [Susan Grant](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:26:31 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Grant
Humarock, MA 02047

From: [Randolph Monti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:24:01 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Randolph Monti
, 03216-3628

From: [Julie Szegda](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:20:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julie Szegda
West Roxbury, MA 02132

From: [Diana Lewis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:15:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diana Lewis
East Longmeadow, MA 01028

From: [Joseph Nunes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:13:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joseph Nunes
Andover, MA 01810

From: [Maria Barth](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:07:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Maria Barth
Somerville, MA 02143

From: [Lee Scheffey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 4:04:55 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lee Scheffey
Pawtucket, RI 02861

From: [Diane Lipka](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:59:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diane Lipka
Hubbardston, MA 01452

From: [pharr.schulenburg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:55:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

pharr.schulenburg
Eastham, MA 02642

From: [Ali Blake](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:49:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ali Blake
Dedham, MA 02026

From: [Bruce Littlefield](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:44:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Bruce Littlefield
Andover, MA 01810

From: [Kristi Mauro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:42:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kristi Mauro
Jewett City, CT 06351

From: [Debbie Mccarthy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:37:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Debbie Mccarthy
Phillips, ME 04966

From: [Elaine Salvo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:31:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Elaine Salvo
Brockton, MA 02302

From: [katie lane](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:26:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

katie lane
Somerville, MA 02145

From: [Theodora Boura](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:22:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Theodora Boura
Boston, MA 02135

From: [Lisa Geary](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:19:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lisa Geary
Dorchester, MA 02122

From: [John Hondrogen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:15:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John Hondrogen
Pelham, MA 01002

From: [Clay Fernald](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:11:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Clay Fernald
, 02135-2587

From: [Raina D'Orazio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:07:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Raina D'Orazio
West Newbury, MA 01985

From: [Paulina Padron](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:03:56 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Paulina Padron
South Grafton, MA 01560

From: [Patrick Fachet](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 3:01:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Patrick Fachet
, 85248-2730

From: [Robert Cucinelli](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:38:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robert Cucinelli
Quincy, MA 02169

From: [Danielle Martin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:33:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Danielle Martin
Scituate, MA 02066

From: [Kelly Western](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:28:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kelly Western
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Charles Stevenson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:25:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Charles Stevenson
North Adams, MA 01247

From: [Susan Lemont](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:21:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Lemont
Arlington, MA 02476

From: [Pam Winthrop](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:18:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Pam Winthrop
Oakland, CA 94619

From: [John Burrridge](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:30:37 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John Burrridge
East Providence, RI 02914

From: [John Hondrogen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whales!
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:14:44 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The right whale population is dwindling. Scientists estimate that there are only 366 left. NOW is the time to act. We need greater measures in order to save them from extinction! Ropeless fishing gear can help solve the problem of right whale entanglements while helping the fishing industry thrive. This needs to be considered in your draft regulations.

Thank you,
John Hondrogen, Pelham, MA



F/V VOYAGER

Todd M. Jesse

27 Olmstead Terrace, Plymouth, MA 02360
(508) 747-4938

December 8, 2020

Dear Director McKiernan,

I would like to submit these comments for the New Protected Species Regulations.

- A different color tracer for Massachusetts waters. A separate one for Cape Cod Bay and a separate one for Nantucket Sound.
- 3/8 line maximum size is good
- A line that breaks at 1700 pounds or the "South Shore Sleeve" is workable
- Since the whales are in the southern part of the bay first maybe the Northern part of the bay could stay open later into February
- A review or sunset date if in case the whale patterns change. Maybe the feed never comes back into the bay. We do not know what the future brings, so a scheduled review would be good.

Respectfully,



Todd M Jesse

From: [Thomas Lees](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: AREA 2 closure
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:19:56 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello this is hunter lees. I hold an area 2 state/fed lobster License along with pot endorsements.

I'm writing in regards to the recent closure that is supposed to take place in February of 2021. I am strongly OPPOSED to this closure. 25% of my income takes place during this closure. I have purchased a newer vessel recently, bought more tags, new gear etc. To close lobstering down in our area would greatly effect myself and others. How many whales have been spotted in area 2 over the last few years? 2020 was hard due to COVID 19 and now to close us down? It seems as if they want to put us out of business. Trap reduction, whale breakaways and more seems not to be good enough. I am 100% against this closure. Families will be effected tremendously.

Thank you and merry Xmas
Hunter Lees

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#); [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: Closing of Mass State Water to Loberstering
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:15:33 PM

From: pointgp@aol.com <pointgp@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:09 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: Closing of Mass State Water to Loberstering

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dan: As a Massachusetts resident, I urge the state to find other alternatives to the current closing of Mass State waters to commercial lobster fishing.

We have all suffered enough this year, without taking away the lively hood of these fishermen.

Thanks for you consideration in this matter..

Michael A. Pinto

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#); [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: Closure south coast
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:23:05 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Joanne OL <jartoleary@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:16 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: Closure south coast

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please allow lobster fishing in south coast area being considered for shut down. Keep the businesses alive. Right whales will still be protected.

Quotes from lobsterman D. Durr

“ So here is the issue, I have somewhere in the ballpark of 2000 days over 20,000 hours over the last 20 plus years in that little red area. I have never witnessed a right whale in those waters, never. Nor do I know anyone who has. I’m not saying one has never wondered of migration. But if they do we’re ready. Reduced vertical lines by trap reductions, whales safe rope, breakaways that create a weak point on vertical lines. We have done what we can and have literally reduced whale entanglement to 0 in this area.
..south coast lobster business can’t take this type of economic impact. There are no right whales in these water to save. A closure in this area won’t save one whale but it will put people out of business. “

Thanks, Joanne OLeary

Sent from my iPad

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#); [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#); [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: Coastal waters closed to lobstermen
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:31:28 PM

From: Duncan K Law Jr <dklawjr2@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:20 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: Coastal waters closed to lobstermen

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

As conservationists, southcoast lobstermen have not only met all previous regulations but have worked with the state to help reduce entanglements. Our south coast lobster business can't take this type of economic impact. Depending on the boat this will be a 20-30% reduction in total value and roughly 15-20% of the yearly landings. Already operating on slim margins this will most definitely impact the guys here on the southcoast and put their livelihoods at stake.

Most of the impacted lobstermen have been fishing the affected waters for 20 years. They have reduced vertical lines by trap reductions, whalesafe rope, breakaways that create a weak point on vertical lines. These lobstermen have done what we can and have literally reduced whale entanglement to 0 in this designated area. Typically the migration path brings them just off the southeast corner of Nantucket. There are no right whales in these waters to save. A closure in this area won't save one whale, but it will put people out of business.

Duncan K Law Jr
508-636-6058
781-640-2629 (m)

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#); [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: Commercial Lobster closures in State waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:16:11 PM

From: Matthew Arguin <matthewarguin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:47 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: Commercial Lobster closures in State waters

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Mr. McKiernan,

I was wondering what sort of data is available for right whale migration in the areas of state waters surrounding the southern end of the Elizabeth Islands, South of Martha's Vineyard and around No Mans Land island. I understand these waters are included in a potential closure for commercial lobstering that are about to be closed to. Having spent a lot of time south of the vineyard offshore, I know that I personally have never seen any right whale activity even out at the dump, coxes ledge..the fingers and so on. I frequently fish between Cuttyhunk/Martha's Vineyard and the shipping lanes to the south. I have seen frequently pods of dolphins, but never any right whales. While i am not a commercial fisherman myself, i am friendly with more than a handful of them, whos time on the water far outweigh my own. I don't know of one person in that group, who has seen a right whale in this area.

It seems that this area is just being lumped in with other areas that do have active right whale activity with no real benefit, however a terrible consequence of either putting commercial lobstermen and women on the south coast either out of business or forcing them to go further than necessary.

Is there data supporting right whales being in this location? or is the blanket closure just hte easiest way to do this with the least amount of effort?

With all the work the government has put on the lobstermen (whale safe gear, reduced verticle lines,breakaways, etc) in the off chance that a whale did wander into this area, i would expect the government to spend the time to properly assess if they are actually doing anything beneficial to the whale population with a closure, or if they are just doing what is easy.

I am hoping that this blanket closure will not happen...i am hoping that closures in known right whale habitat will be what is targeted by this possible closure and not something done with a blind stroke of a brush.

Matthew Arguin
Mattapoisett, MA

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#); [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#); [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: proposed fixed gear closures in Mass waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:23:29 PM

From: bob pink <bpinkjr52@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:15 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: proposed fixed gear closures in Mass waters

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr McKiernan

It is my belief that the proposal to close 'all' Mass regulated waters to fixed gear fishing seasonally is arbitrary and unnecessary. Although I support all reasonable efforts to protect marine species, the inclusion of the area South of Buzzards Bay/Vineyard Sound/Nomans will have little to no positive impact on Right whale endangerment. I am not a commercial fisherman, but have spent over 40 years working these waters recreationally and have yet to see a Right in this area.

Our commercial fishing industry is in serious trouble, and yes some of that damage was self-inflicted. The commercial lobster fishery has proven to be sustainable and responsive to all of the mandated protection measures, but closing these areas for months at a time will prove a devastating blow to an already pressured industry.

Please consider a revision to the proposal that keeps areas open that are not known as Right whale habitat.

--

bob pink

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: Right Whales
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:00:14 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Howard Chezar <hmcchezar@icloud.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:13 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: Right Whales

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr McKiernan

I am writing to express my hope that you will help the declining Right Whale population by enacting stronger regulations to eliminate fishing lines which now entangle these majestic creatures.

There are so many hazards out there that man has created that endanger these animals that we cannot change but here is one that is in our power.

We owe it to them and to our shared environment to strengthen the laws which will eliminate rope lines. They are killing too many of our ocean animals.

I urge you to take strong action in the upcoming opportunity to eliminate this hazard.

Thank you

Howard Chezar

South Egremont MA

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#); [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#); [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: South coast fishing industry
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 2:23:53 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Paula Strand <pmstrand@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 2:23 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: South coast fishing industry

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This email is ask you to please consider the economic hardship the new regulations will have on the South coast fishing industry. The regulations are too harsh for these businesses to succeed. Thank you for your time. Happy Holidays. Paula Strand.

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#); [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#); [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: South Coast Lobster Business
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:16:56 PM

From: Pam Sefrino <psefrino@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:47 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: South Coast Lobster Business

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Dan,

We are writing today to support local lobstermen here in the SouthCoast. These hard workers have already been significantly impacted by the pandemic in 2020 that has put their livelihoods, and that of their families at stake.

Apparently, there's a small area in our neck of the woods where the inshore lobsterman from the SouthCoast fish during the winter/spring months, that is about to be closed during this time of year to protect right whales.

According to a local lobsterman I know, who has somewhere in the ballpark of 2000 days and more than 20,000 hours over the last 20 years in local waters that have been mapped to be closed, they have never witnessed a right whale in those waters, ever, nor does he know others who have. They have also said they have met regulations and are well prepared should the rare sighting/appearance occur.

They have reduced vertical lines by trap reductions, have whale safe rope and breakaways that create a weak point on vertical lines. They have done what they can and have reduced whale entanglement to 0 in this area.

We ask that you reconsider closing these waters during this crucial time that these hard workers need to feed their families and literally, stay afloat.

Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Pam and Bryan Sefrino

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#); [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: South Coast Lobster Fishing.
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:30:56 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: karenvergoni@gmail.com <karenvergoni@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:20 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: South Coast Lobster Fishing.

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

dan.mckiernan@mass.gov

I support your conservation efforts, however, please take a moment to think about the economic impact on South Coast Lobster fisherman. These are hard times for these small businesses.

The south coast lobster business can't take this type of economic impact. There are no right whales in these water to save. A closure in this area won't save one whale but it will put people out of business.

Please reconsider implementing these regulations!

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Kaplan, Julia \(FWE\)](#); [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#); [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: South coast lobsterman
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:18:40 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Joann <joannlj@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:27 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Subject: South coast lobsterman

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The closure in the area planned to protect whales at this time will be devastating to their business....
Please consider this before taking action, because if the fisherman do ever see these whales they will be ready to not entangle them and fish responsibly.
Please consider this before you close the area and put more Fisherman out of business...
Thank you, Joann Gauthier Somerset Ma

Sent from my iPad

From: lisadannolfolevey@gmail.com
To: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#); [Burke, Erin \(FWE\)](#); [Creighton, Kevin \(FWE\)](#); [Pol, Mike \(FWE\)](#); [Nelson, Gary \(FWE\)](#); [Dean, Micah \(FWE\)](#); [Griffin, Melanie \(FWE\)](#); [Meserve, Nichola \(FWE\)](#); [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#); [Whitmore, Kelly \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please don't be complacent. Protect the right whales while we still can.
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 2:49:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear DMF Leaders, Scientists, Researchers:

I am reaching out to you as those who appear most closely connected to the proposed policy regulations with regard to protecting the right whale.

Several issues are clear:

- There remain a small number of right whales in North American waters.
- Current fishing equipment – in the form of vertical rope lines across Massachusetts waters - is a primary driver of right whale injury and death.
- There exists modern technological equipment (ropeless gear), used in other countries, including our Canadian neighbors to the north and U.S. fishermen (and women) on the west coast, for addressing the problem caused by lines that entangle the right whales.
- Whales are part of the allure and a boon to tourism in Massachusetts.

I ask, as a concerned citizen of Massachusetts, it is not your job as DMF leaders and professionals to play a frontline role in protecting our waters and the myriad sea life that depend on them? This problem of entanglement will NOT go away without a catalyst to employ alternatives to fishing lines that interfere with sea life mobility.

What a colossal tragedy it would be to witness the extinction of these majestic creatures when there are practical, effective alternatives. When you think of your children, nieces, nephews, perhaps grandchildren, how would you feel knowing they would no longer have the chance to see right whales in Massachusetts waters? How would you feel having them know that on your watch, you didn't do everything you could to ensure right whales did not become extinct?

Extinction is so final - no longer in existence, vanished from the earth, no going back.

I implore you not to be complacent by ensuring new proposed regulations include a pathway for allowing ropeless fishing gear.

I thank you for taking the time to read my email. I wish good health to you and all your loved ones.

Regards,

Lisa D'Annolfo Levey

440 Massachusetts Ave.

Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Don Ogden](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:10:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director Daniel McKiernan,

The North Atlantic Right Whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the entire world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

These Endangered whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Deidre Nassar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:48:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Karen Moore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:28:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Al Maze](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:17:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Terry Karamanos](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:48:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kristin Gray](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:38:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Victoria Slowek](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:34:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lisa Ann](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:30:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [deborah chase](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:24:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kristine Schroeder](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:41:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [LINDA JONES](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:20:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Megan Lepore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 2:52:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Clayton Randall](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: right whales
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 2:46:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan,

Right whales are endangered and nearly extinct in the northern Atlantic Ocean.

I hope that you will encourage the Department of Marine Fisheries to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species. Thank you.

--

Clayton Randall
222 Magill Dr.
Grafton, MA 01519

From: [Susan Fernald](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:15:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Fernald
Hyannis, MA 02601

From: [Lloyd Williams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: ENdangered RRight Whales
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 4:13:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear DMF,

It has been brought to my attention, as a citizen concerned about the mass extinction of species we are now witnessing at ever accelerating speed, that our planet's wonderful right whales are facing major challenges and assaults that diminish their numbers, decrease their reproductive rate, and endanger their survival. Of particular concern are fishing practices that result in wright whale deaths. Currently, there is a public push to encourage DMF to consider ropeless gear as a way to help save wright whales from extinction. Ropeless gear has a very high success rate at significantly reducing entanglement, injury and death for our right whale population. This is a concern of serious magnitude. It is hoped that DMF will recognize that human impact upon right whales and other precious marine life threatens their very survival. A world without whales would be an unimaginable tragedy. Please move decisively to protect them and insure their survival!

Sincerely,

Lloyd T. Williams
119 Jackson Lane
Barre, MA 01005

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Eric Fournier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:57:16 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Eric Fournier
49 Parker St
Watertown, MA 02472

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Cindy Rancourt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 1:12:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Cindy Rancourt
102 North Street
Dalton, MA 01226

From: [Tracy Faulkner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:58:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Stephen Mahoney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 5:16:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Tina Michael](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:06:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Patricia Connors](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:26:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Ann Connolly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:22:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Catherine Kroeger](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:00:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Sharon Bauer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:27:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:18:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Douglas Spring](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 8:08:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Marilyn Conrad](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 8:08:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [E3 Ander](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 8:06:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [So Allen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 7:48:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Heather Bell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 7:30:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kathleen Bright Procopio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 7:26:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [erin rowland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 6:50:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Brenda Mueller-Lamore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 6:44:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Michelle Collar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 6:44:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jeff Schwefel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 6:16:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Chris Aldrich](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 6:10:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Theresa DeLuca](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:56:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [David Dragon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:46:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Anne Wayne](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:44:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Joyce Barringer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:42:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [STEPHEN DONNELLY](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:40:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Sunetra Banerjee](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:36:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Carolyn Villanova](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:24:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Arlene Bonneau](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:14:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Joan McGrath](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 5:02:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Ellen Miller](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 4:56:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Elana Katz rose](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 4:34:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Michelle Malaspino](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 4:16:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Barbara Arnold](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:58:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Laurie Conlon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:52:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Irene Foley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:44:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [cathy.staniunas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:40:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Rebecca Pink](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:38:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Margit Suess](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:36:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Louise Quigley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:22:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Carleen Duquette](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:16:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Fanny Whitman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:14:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Carol Herzog](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 3:08:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Nancy Mulrey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:56:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Brian Merrick](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:55:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Brenda Agnew](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:52:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Peter Ajemian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:50:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jordan Longever](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:40:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Francine Traniello](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:34:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jennifer Santos](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:14:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Susan Reichter](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:08:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kate Nelligan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 2:08:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lynn Bengston](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:52:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kristin Palmer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:44:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Aaron Beer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:40:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Deborah Reiter](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:38:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Cathy Condon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:36:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Barbara Bradley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:33:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Dez DeCarlo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:28:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [sherry weiland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:14:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [J. Mcswain](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:10:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Sarah McKee](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:06:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Howard Chezar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:04:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

The plight of these majestic creatures is in our hands and we cannot let this opportunity pass without doing what's in their best interest.

Please permit ropeless fishing in order to eliminate this deadly hazard to these animals survival.

Thank you.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Elana Katz rose](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 1:00:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [John Berkland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:56:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Wayne Sanborn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:50:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Karen Martin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:42:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Mary Gershanoff](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:33:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Karen Defrancesco](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:32:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kathleen Walsh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:30:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Samantha Daniel-Banks](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:18:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Georgia Arbo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:16:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jane Tomaselli](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:02:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Richard and Julia Robitaille](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 12:00:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Julia Cumes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:56:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Linda Knowles](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:56:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Niles & Michele Busler](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:54:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [sheila fetterhoff](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:50:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Susan Mackle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:40:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Peggy Herlihy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:24:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Michael Stuart](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:20:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Christine Piekarski](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:20:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Niles Busler](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:18:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Elizabeth Newton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:12:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lauren Sheytanian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:10:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Carol Berkeley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:08:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Claire Goldthwaite](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:08:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Katherine Levin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:02:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Elaine Arthur](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:56:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kristine Soly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:55:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Robert Murphy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:48:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Frances Burke](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:46:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kit Lilly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:44:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Sue Hassett](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:40:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Judy Desreuisseau](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:38:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Amy Henry](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:38:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Alison Bickford](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:34:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Christine King](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:34:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [David Miller](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:34:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Monica Alcantara](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:34:01 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lena Fransioli](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:32:06 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [arlene butters](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:32:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [B Coniglio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:32:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Ally Matteodo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:30:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Dave Stauber](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:24:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Helene Bank](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:22:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Peter Townsend](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:22:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lozz Starseed](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:22:11 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Carole Smudin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:10:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Marjorie Smith](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:10:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Clare Goslant](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:06:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Carol Goslant](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:06:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Maressa B](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:04:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lisa Remington](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:02:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [LJ Orszulak](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:02:01 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Cheryl Rigby](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 10:02:01 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

Thank you for your consideration and for accepting my comments.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [S Joyce](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:58:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Nita Sembrowich](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:58:01 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can and should be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. We must take strong action today before collisions with ships and entanglements in fishing gear drive them into extinction.

Fishing is vitally important to the culture and economy of our state and to the livelihoods of many residents. Right whales are beloved, iconic denizens of our waters and of historic importance to the New England economy. But apart from any value to humans, whales deserve to be here as much as we do.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

Please do what is best both for whales while also considering the needs of Massachusetts fishermen. The proposed draft protections for right whales do not do enough to ensure whales' safety. Thank you.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lara Miletta](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:56:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Deirdre Morris](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:56:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lindsay Keith](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:52:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jacob Pendlebury](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:52:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jennifer Andrews](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:52:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Beth Alvernaz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:52:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Nancy Hooper](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:52:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Peggy Patti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:52:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Karen Vayda](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:50:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jane Lanzoni](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:48:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Carol Guertin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:48:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [James Hutchison](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:48:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Shelagh Dean](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:40:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Lynn Hamilton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:40:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late so sad so wrong to let them go so cruel we need to do something to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Diane Zirakian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:32:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Thomas McConnell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:30:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Cameron S.](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:28:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Patty Walsh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:28:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Diane Pirro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:28:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Anita Dranetz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:28:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Victoria Cantrell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:26:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Dennis Rogers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:26:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Eugene Brusin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:24:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Victoria Martin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:24:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Jennifer Sullivan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:20:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Stephanie Reeve](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:18:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Rachael Carlucci](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:18:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Heloise Seailles](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:18:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Arlene Strauss](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:16:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Margaret Curtin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:14:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Deborah Sanders](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:14:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Barbara Cummings](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:10:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Peter Dorfman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:08:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Mary Vitro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:08:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Gerald Beetham](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:08:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

I urge the Commonwealth to fund subsidies to lobstermen for them to transition to ropeless gear. This gear is expensive and until the costs come down, lobstermen are reluctant to try it. The North Atlantic Right Whales do not have any more time.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Patricia Brodie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:06:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kristine Kennedy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:06:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Shelley Hartz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:06:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Joey Johnson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:05:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Katherine Slocum](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:05:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Kay Clement](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:04:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Ilda Johnston](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:04:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Louisa Reppucci](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 9:04:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Nancy Prendergast](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 9:14:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

A viable pathway for permitting ropeless fishing gear should be included in the new proposed regulations in order to fully address the issue of entanglement. Removing vertical buoy rope from the water and providing a permitting structure for fishermen to legally utilize 21st century technology is the only long-term solution to reduce the entanglement risk to right whales while ensuring a sustainable future for Massachusetts fishing communities.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [John White](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Protecting Right Whales
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 9:34:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

It seems to me that the DMF has not given proper consideration to alternative fishing methods, including ropeless gear, that would dramatically decrease the danger to right whales. Way too many of these endangered mammals are being unnecessarily injured and killed by the vertical lines currently used. I believe that the protection of this species should be a top priority for DMF and should be treated as such.

Thank you,
John White
Worcester, MA
508-853-6327

Sent from my iPad

From: [paul mullen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right wale lilitigation
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 4:35:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Att: Dan McKiernan, I am writing a letter to you in regards to the litigation on the right wales. As a delegate of the Mass Lobstermens Assoc. I am well aware of the pending litigation against the state. I realize you must come up with something to satisfy the judge. Most of your proposals I already use. 600lb breakaway bouy ends 3/8" line, experimental 1700 lb breaking strength endline. I have had some issues with it (unravels,,longevity ?) But it is usable. My biggest issue is with the state closure. I feel as though we have done as much as we possibly can to stop entanglements on our part. If you ultimately decide on a state closure I would like to see some sort of separation for fishermen outside of the Mass Bay restricted area. It is not fair to fishermen north and south of that area to be stopped from setting gear after May 1 if no whales are present in our areas. Sincerely, Paul J Mullen PS I feel as though whatever you decide it will never be enough, litigation will keep coming.

From: [Ted Box](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whales
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 7:45:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The moment where we lose a species we all cherish has come. Generations will measure us by our actions when we had the technology to save these magnificent creatures but not the will. These creatures have swim the ocean since the dawn of time. We are the only thing between them and silence. I appeal to you to be the voice for sentient creatures who cannot speak, yet tug at our sense of duty to protect.

Ropeless traps work. They save whales lives. We know this to be true. Find a way to enact this legislation while helping the fishermen to afford this burden. They shouldn't have to carry the expense of the transition.

Ted Box

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Laura Gill](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whales
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 10:34:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

C'mon, must we lose another beloved species to man's laziness and greed? Ropeless gear is a must. Please add my name to the masses of citizens who will support what it takes to preserve these majestic beings.

Thank you

Laura Gill
Brewster, MA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Richard Norris MD](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right whales
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 6:17:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice.

I am asking that you do everything possible to
Stop this barbaric treatment of these magnificent creatures.
Richard Norris, MD

From: [janutee](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Ropeless Gear
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:53:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please consider supporting ropeless gear which is shown to be highly effective in protecting right whales. This species has suffered so much and needs our protection to save it from extinction.

Thank you,
Janet Bargar
Quincy MA

Sent from my Galaxy

From: eikenyon11@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save Our Precious Right Whales
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 6:37:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing you today to express my deep concern for Right Whales. There are only about 300 still living and rope entanglements represent the greatest threat to causing their extinction. We humans have already caused the extinction of thousands of species in the last 50 years. We must start acting more responsibly or we shall wreak havoc with our environment and our earth.

Sent from Xfinity Connect Application

From: [George White](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save Right Whales
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 7:59:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir, Madam,

Count me in on supporting the elimination of ropes and any old fishing technology that is causing damage to and death to right whales and other marine life.

Thank you very much.

George White
Cambridge, MA 02138

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sherri Tessitore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:40:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sherri Tessitore
Orange, CT 06477

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:38:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01831

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:34:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01832

From: [Stephanie Bourdelle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:29:38 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stephanie Bourdelle
Sheffield, VT 05866

From: [MaryRose O'Grady](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:24:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

MaryRose O'Grady
Enfield, CT 06082

From: [Scott Barnard](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:20:24 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Scott Barnard
Enfield, CT 06082

From: [Lj Orszulak](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020 11:17:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lj Orszulak
Chicopee, MA 01020

From: [Stanley Warner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 9:42:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stanley Warner
Middletown, CT 06457

From: [Wayne Cohen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 9:40:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Wayne Cohen
Plainville, MA 02762

From: [Matthew Goldstein](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 9:12:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Matthew Goldstein
Cambridge, MA 02140

From: [Alisa Jonas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 9:09:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alisa Jonas
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

From: [Lorri Devlin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 9:06:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lorri Devlin
Cotuit, MA 02635

From: [Lauren Milgroom](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 9:02:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lauren Milgroom
Somerville, MA 02144

From: [Joyce MacPherson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 9:00:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joyce MacPherson
Canton, MA 02021

From: [Patrick Brown](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:54:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Patrick Brown
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [Molly Alamsetti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:52:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Molly Alamsetti
Bedford, MA 01730

From: [Richard Fisher](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:49:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Richard Fisher
Little Compton, RI 02837

From: [Abigail Tapper](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:45:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Abigail Tapper
Waltham, MA 02452

From: [Melinda Collins](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:41:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Melinda Collins
Marlborough, MA 01752

From: [Joseph Mullin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:36:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joseph Mullin
Boston, MA 02118

From: [RichettaíS Migliozi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:33:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

RichettaíS Migliozi
Gloucester, MA 01930

From: [Dannette Costas-Carrion](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:30:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Dannette Costas-Carrion
Houston, TX 77069

From: [Scarlet Johnson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:24:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Scarlet Johnson
West Tisbury, MA 02575

From: [Deborah Armstrong](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:21:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deborah Armstrong
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Anne Curtis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:18:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Anne Curtis
Belmont, MA 02478

From: [Nina Foley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:13:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nina Foley
Northampton, MA 01060

From: [David Cash](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:11:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

David Cash
Boston, MA 02118

From: [Lozz Starseed](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:05:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lozz Starseed
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Valorie Ricci](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 8:02:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Valorie Ricci
Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

From: [Lori Fogg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:58:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lori Fogg
Attleboro, MA 02703

From: [Francine Traniello](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:55:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Francine Traniello
Middleboro, MA 02346

From: [Francine Traniello](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:52:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Francine Traniello
Middleboro, MA 02346

From: [Heather Breau](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:46:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Heather Breau
Wakefield, RI 02879

From: [Kimberly Bernard](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:41:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kimberly Bernard
North Andover, MA 01845

From: [Katrin Winterer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:38:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Katrin Winterer
Winchester, MA 01890

From: [Priscilla Shade](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:36:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Priscilla Shade
Boston, MA 02114

From: [Alex Weiland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:33:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alex Weiland
Hudson, MA 01749

From: [Timothy McLaughlin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:31:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Timothy McLaughlin
Plymouth, MA 02360

From: [Mary-Sarah O'Hanlon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:27:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary-Sarah O'Hanlon
Ashby, MA 01431

From: [Nancy Woolley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:24:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nancy Woolley
Stoughton, MA 02072

From: [Irene Foley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:21:55 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Irene Foley
Roslindale, MA 02131

From: [Sandra Dunn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:18:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sandra Dunn
Torrington, CT 06790

From: [Wilmary Labonte](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:15:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Wilmary Labonte
Chicopee, MA 01013

From: [Barbara Kamholz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:12:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Barbara Kamholz
Brookline, MA 02445

From: [Susan Mackle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:06:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Mackle
Great Barrington, MA 01230

From: [Richard Payne](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 7:03:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Richard Payne
Falmouth, MA 02540

From: [Elizabeth Coates](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 4:00:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Coates
Sharon, MA 02067

From: [Stephanie Wonderly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:57:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stephanie Wonderly
Wayland, MA 01778

From: [chris kelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:54:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

chris kelly
West Roxbury, MA 02132

From: [Ashley Kelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:51:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ashley Kelly
Franklin, MA 02038

From: [Lokesh Bindal](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:49:00 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lokesh Bindal
Lowell, MA 01851

From: [Cindy Jacobsen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:43:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Cindy Jacobsen
Woburn, MA 01801

From: [Daniel Neske](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:40:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Daniel Neske
West Yarmouth, MA 02673

From: [Rachel Gawell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:38:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rachel Gawell
Astoria, NY 11103

From: [Lily Newman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:35:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lily Newman
South Hadley, MA 01075

From: [Allison Argo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:32:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Allison Argo
Brewster, MA 02631

From: [Cami Hennekens](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:29:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Cami Hennekens
Beverly, MA 01915

From: [Gordon Casey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:23:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gordon Casey
Woburn, MA 01801

From: [ronda sigel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:21:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

ronda sigel
Brewster, MA 02631

From: [Maire Gorman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:15:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Maire Gorman
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

From: [Anne Walker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:12:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Anne Walker
Newton, MA 02462

From: [Marielle Vena](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:08:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Marielle Vena
Burlington, MA 01803

From: [Theodore Box](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:04:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Theodore Box
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

From: [Theodore Box](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 3:00:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Theodore Box
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

From: [Leslie Naditch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:58:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Leslie Naditch
Southborough, MA 01772

From: [Andrea Zeren](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:55:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Andrea Zeren
Marblehead, MA 01945

From: [Sara Stanwppd](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:51:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sara Stanwppd
Tyngsboro, MA 01879

From: [Amy SHROFF](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:46:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amy SHROFF
Wayland, MA 01778

From: [Eileen Anglin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:42:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Eileen Anglin
Barnegat, NJ 08005

From: [Priya Chan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:38:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Priya Chan
Lowell, MA 01854

From: [Dana Lepler](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:36:00 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Dana Lepler
Arlington, MA 02476

From: [Lisa And David Eisenbud](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:30:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lisa And David Eisenbud
Boston, MA 02130

From: [Joanna Stevens](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:27:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joanna Stevens
Eastham, MA 02642

From: [Michelle Olson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:25:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michelle Olson
Harwich, MA 02645

From: [Julie Kahn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:19:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julie Kahn
, 024721794

From: [melissa alves](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:17:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

melissa alves
, 02631-5205

From: [Madeline Colón-Usowicz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:12:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Madeline Colón-Usowicz
Webster, MA 01570

From: [Ushs Haley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:06:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ushs Haley
Deep River, CT 06417

From: [Shevon Almeida-Ramos](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 2:02:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Shevon Almeida-Ramos
South Dartmouth, MA 02748

From: [Lauren Jones](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:59:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lauren Jones
New York, NY 10008

From: [Carole Smudin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:57:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carole Smudin
Bridgewater, MA 02324

From: [Dennis Rogers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:52:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Dennis Rogers
Hubbardston, MA 01452

From: [Rosemary Bernier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:47:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rosemary Bernier
Norfolk, MA 02056

From: [Melissa Grondin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:42:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Melissa Grondin
, 02148-2911

From: [Donna Dione](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:39:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Donna Dione
Deep River, CT 06417

From: [John Larochelle Larochelle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:37:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John Larochelle Larochelle
Pittsfield, MA 01201

From: [kristin mortimer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:31:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

kristin mortimer
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Carol Guertin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:25:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carol Guertin
Gardner, MA 01440

From: [Angela Coffey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:22:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Angela Coffey
Tarrytown, NY 10591

From: [Arlene Butters](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:19:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Arlene Butters
Arlington, MA 02476

From: [Diane Zirakian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:16:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diane Zirakian
Andover, MA 01810

From: [Karen Vayda](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:11:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Karen Vayda
Southampton, MA 01073

From: [Don Thompson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:08:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Don Thompson
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [Nicole Monforti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:05:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nicole Monforti
Harrison, NY 10528

From: [Andrea Ferguson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:00:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Andrea Ferguson
Granby, MA 01033

From: [Joan McGrath](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:00:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joan McGrath
Franklin, MA 02038

From: [Glenna Waterman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:52:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Glenna Waterman
Brookline, MA 02445

From: [Beth Alvernaz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:46:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Beth Alvernaz
Fairhaven, MA 02719

From: [Richard and Kim Rendigs](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:44:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Richard and Kim Rendigs
Falmouth, MA 02540

From: [Beth Alvernaz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:41:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Beth Alvernaz
Fairhaven, MA 02719

From: [Paula Mahoney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:39:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Paula Mahoney
Billerica, MA 01821

From: [Kevin Worker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:33:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kevin Worker
Amesbury, MA 01913

From: [Alison Collins](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:28:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alison Collins
South Egremont, MA 01258

From: [Alex Weiland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:24:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alex Weiland
Hudson, MA 01749

From: [Elana Katz rose](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2020 12:22:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Elana Katz rose
Sharon, MA 02067

From: [Alex Johnson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:24:55 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alex Johnson
West Tisbury, MA 02575

From: [Ann Wolf](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:21:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ann Wolf
Arlington, MA 02474

From: [Toni Johnson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:18:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Toni Johnson
Bozrah, CT 06334

From: [Julia Knowles](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:12:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julia Knowles
Boylston, MA 01505

From: [Joshua Davis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:10:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joshua Davis
Preston, CT 06365

From: [Jennifer Rock](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:08:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Rock
Wyoming, RI 02898

From: [Kevin Paolucci](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:08:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kevin Paolucci
Provincetown, MA 02657

From: [colleen ford](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 4:03:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

colleen ford
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Amy DelMonaco](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:58:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amy DelMonaco
Mystic, CT 06355

From: [Benjamin Keehn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:53:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Benjamin Keehn
La Puente, CA 91746

From: [Deirdre McKenna](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:50:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deirdre McKenna
Pittsfield, MA 01201

From: [Nancy Opp](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:44:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nancy Opp
Hudson, MA 01749

From: [Keith Thurlow](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:42:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Keith Thurlow
Truro, MA 02666

From: [Gay Hayden](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:37:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gay Hayden
Scituate, MA 02066

From: [Jennifer Long](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:34:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Long
West Newton, MA 02465

Daniel McKiernan
Director
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
marine.fish@mass.gov

December 11, 2020

Dear Director McKiernan:

I submit the following comments on behalf of Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC) regarding proposed amendments to Division of Marine Fisheries regulations at 322 CMR 6.00, 7.00, and 12.00 designed to reduce risk of entangling, injuring, or killing critically endangered North Atlantic right whales.

I am a long serving member of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team and applaud the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries for its consistent efforts in protecting both North Atlantic right whales and its fisheries. WDC is supportive of the measures proposed but requests clarification on the implementation dates for these measures, as only one proposed measure provides a specific date by which it would be enacted. More specific comments on each proposal are offered below.

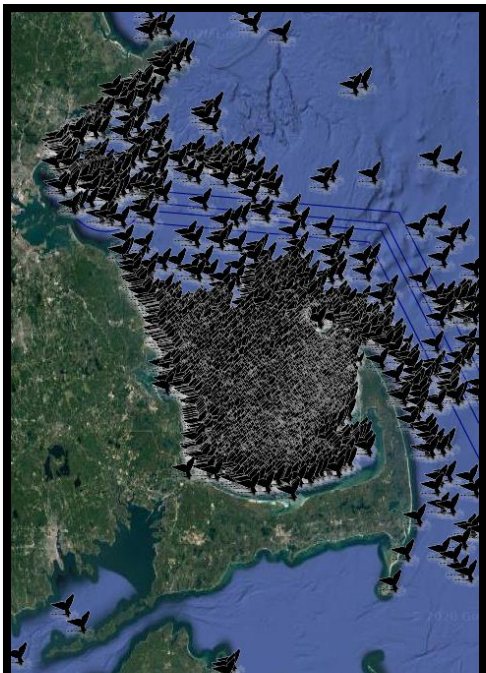


Figure 1 North Atlantic right whale sightings in MA since Jan 1 2015. NOAA SAS <https://apps-nefsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/psb/surveys/MapperiframeWithText.html>

Fixed Gear Closures

1. Commercial Trap Gear Closure (322 CMR 12.04, 12.08, and 12.11). WDC supports this proposed amendment to increase the area covered by the current Large Whale Seasonal Trap Gear Closure to include all waters of the Commonwealth. A review of North Atlantic right whale sightings over the past five years indicates that right whales have been documented in nearly all areas of MA state waters over the past five years (Figure 1). While entanglements are incidental, their impacts are harmful to both right whales and fisheries. Even for whales who may survive the entanglement event, population level impacts result from sub-lethal effects. The short-term impact of the loss of gear as a result of entanglement is a financial burden to fishers; recorded entanglement-related injuries on right whales can also result in long-term impacts to the fishery from further regulatory measures and restrictions. We therefore support the measure as proposed which is the most conservative and appropriate at this time. We suggest DMF consider modifying the definition of this closure to allow the commercial use of on-demand fishing technology only once it is determined the gear can be implemented safely and effectively.
2. Gillnet Closure in Cape Cod Bay (322 CMR 12.04, 12.08, and 12.12). We acknowledge the additional

protections afforded by the extension of the areas covered by this proposal. We ask DMF to evaluate whether gillnet fishing is occurring during this time frame in other MA state waters and, if so, we

request that that risk be evaluated to determine if this expansion should include additional areas to similarly reduce risk as proposed in the previous expansion for trap/pot fisheries (see 1.)

3. Fixed Gear Closure Extensions (322 CMR 12.04). We support the ability of DMF to retain the regulatory authority to extend fixed gear closures only when necessary. We appreciate that DMF has used its authority to do so based on sound science through dedicated right whale surveys. These extensions have been lifted as soon as right whales have vacated the closed areas, reducing additional burdens on the industry that may be imposed with a permanent extension of the closure dates. Given the proposal to increase the area covered by the closure, we recommend that DMF increase its survey area beyond Cape Cod Bay to cover all waters of the Commonwealth. This ensures the most protective measures are in place for right whales while reducing unnecessary burdens on fisheries by unwarranted closure extensions.
4. Recreational Lobster and Crab Trap Gear Haul-Out Season (322 CMR 6.02). We support the proposed measures limiting recreational lobster and crab pot gear fishing to the time frames outlined. The risk to right whales is from vertical lines in the water which are not exclusive to commercially fished gear. The burden of risk should not be isolated to those whose livelihoods depend on fishing, but should be shared by any users of vertical line in the waters of the Commonwealth.
5. Conch Pot Haul-Out Period (322 CMR 6.12). We support the proposed measure to extend the haul-out period of the conch fishery to April 30 to be consistent with the period covered for other trap/pot fisheries. As stated previously, the risk of entanglement in vertical line is not unique to the target species being fished.

Trap Gear Configuration Modifications and Restrictions

1. 1,700-lb Breaking Strength Contrivance (322 CMR 12.02 and 12.06). We have previously expressed concerns regarding the efficacy of using 1,700 lb breaking strength rope to reduce serious injury and mortality to right whales, specifically because the data presented in [Knowlton et al. 2015](#) were obtained prior to 2011, before right whales significantly shifted their habitat use; and by the authors' own admission, the breaking strength does not reduce risk of serious injury or mortality to right whales under two years of age. Additionally, reduced breaking strength lines do not reduce entanglement risk or the sub-lethal effects on those whales who become entangled. As such, we support the continued advancement of on-demand gear. However, we acknowledge that on-demand technology remains in development so limiting the strength of rope used in the fishery outside the times of the closure ensures that risk is not increased in the waters of the Commonwealth. As such, we support this measure.
2. Vertical Buoy Line Maximum Diameter for Commercial Trap Gear (322 CMR 12.06). Consistent with our support for the proposed 1,700-lb Breaking Strength Contrivance, we support this measure as it limits rope diameter to what is currently consistently used, therefore ensuring that the impact of an entanglement does not increase.
3. Vertical Buoy Line Maximum Diameter for Recreational Trap Gear (322 CMR 12.06). As stated for the previous two measures, we support this limitation to prevent any potential increases in risk.
4. Prohibition on Single Lobster Traps for Vessels of a Certain Size (322 CMR 12.06). We are not able to quantify the risk reduction of this proposal but agree that this conceptually would reduce vertical line and are therefore supportive. While not stated specifically in the measure, trawls within the Massachusetts State waters must use sinking groundline between the traps, and we ask that be referenced in the language. We do not have information as to why there is a proposed delay for this measure to take effect.

Permitting

1. Cap on Issuance of Seasonal Lobster Permits (322 CMR 7.01). We are not able to quantify risk reduction by the proposed cap, but agree that a cap on the fishery ensures that risk does not inadvertently increase in the future.

Housekeeping

We do not oppose any of the four modifications proposed under this section. In addition to these, we request clarification on the current language used for the seasonal gillnet closure. [According to 322CMR 12.04:](#)

(1) Gillnet Closures in Right Whale Critical Habitat and Cape Cod Bay. It is unlawful to fish, store, or abandon gillnets in Critical Habitat **and in waters of Cape Cod Bay west of the Critical Habitat** south of 42° North Latitude during the period January 1st through May 15th. (*emphasis added*).

We are unclear as to what waters are being referenced as “west of the Critical Habitat”. While the 1994 designation for Critical Habitat split within the waters of Cape Cod Bay, the 2016 revision expanded areas covered to include nearly all of the Gulf of Maine including all waters of Cape Cod Bay. We believe the language should be updated to reflect the current definition of critical habitat.

Again, we thank you for the opportunity to comment and for the work of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries to protect its natural resources and its vibrant commercial fisheries.

Sincerely,



Regina Asmutis-Silva
Whale and Dolphin Conservation
regina.asmutis-silvia@whales.org

From: [Kristy Nardone](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:28:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kristy Nardone
Provincetown, MA 02657

From: [Chloe Manning](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:26:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Chloe Manning
Quincy, MA 02169

From: [Susan Houghton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:25:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Houghton
Falmouth, MA 02540

From: [Courtney Anderson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:21:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Courtney Anderson
Sharon, MA 02067

From: [Marilyn Rogers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:31:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Marilyn Rogers
Newton, MA 02458

From: [Tally Groves](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Whales
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:22:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Every life depends on every life
Please do all you can to protect whales
Thank you
Tally Groves
Eastham MA



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**

1255 23rd Street, NW
Suite 450
Washington, DC 20037
P 202-452-1100
F 202-778-6132
humanesociety.org

Susan Atherton
Co-Chair

Thomas J. Sabatino, Jr.
Co-Chair

Kitty Block
*President and CEO and
Chief International Officer*

G. Thomas Waite III
*Treasurer
Chief Financial Officer and
Acting Chief Operating Officer*

Katherine L. Karl
*General Counsel and
Chief Legal Officer*

Michaelen Barsness
*Controller and
Deputy Treasurer*

Johanie V. Parra
Secretary

DIRECTORS

Jeffrey J. Arciniaco
Susan Atherton
Georgina Bloomberg
J. Elizabeth Bradham
Jerry Cesak
Neil B. Fang, Esq., CPA
Caren M. Fleit
Cathy Kangas
Paula A. Kislak, D.V.M.
Charles A. Laue
Kathleen M. Linehan, Esq.
C. Thomas McMillen
Sharon Lee Patrick
Marsha R. Perelman
Thomas J. Sabatino, Jr.
David O. Wiebers, M.D.

Daniel McKiernan

Director

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114

marine.fish@mass.gov

December 11, 2020

Dear Director McKiernan,

We submit these comments on behalf of the millions of members and constituents of the Humane Society of the United States (the HSUS) in regard to your request for comments on Proposed amendments to Division of Marine Fisheries regulations at 322 CMR 6.00, 7.00, and 12.00. The proposed amendments seek to reduce seasonal risk of seriously injuring or killing critically endangered North Atlantic right whales while they occupy waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth.¹

The HSUS has held an appointed seat the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (ALWTRT) since its founding in the 1990's. Despite multiple amendments to the federal take reduction plan intended to reduce death and serious injury, right whale continue to die in unsustainable numbers and the species continues to decline.² In a presentation to the annual meeting of the Right Whale Consortium, NMFS provided a dire assessment of the abundance and ongoing death rates in right whales, with the decline in female right whales the most marked.³ It is vital that the Commonwealth act to protect females and their young dependent calves, as right whales have been seen feeding in Massachusetts' waters year-round, with greatest the concentrations found in Cape Cod Bay in the late winter and spring."

¹ See annual distributions at NOAA Right Whale Sighting Advisory System at: <https://apps-nefsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/psb/surveys/MapperiframeWithText.html>

² NOAA/NMFS 2020. North Atlantic Right Whale in: [U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments, 2019 \(PDF, 479 pages\)](#)

³ NOAA Fisheries Statement on the Preliminary North Atlantic Right Whale Annual Population Estimate "This year's preliminary estimate is 366 right whales alive as of January 2019. If sustained through peer review, this number would represent a decrease from the estimate reported to the Consortium last year, of 412 right whales alive in January 2018." And "Given the low population numbers (including fewer than 94 breeding females remaining), it is essential that we work together to protect every North Atlantic right whale in order to avoid extinction for this endangered species." Provided to the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team on 10/26/2020 by Colleen Coogan of NMFS/NERO



The Commonwealth issued a draft of Protected Species Regulations at 322 CMR 6.00, 7.00 and 12.00 Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing.⁴ We largely agree with the proposed changes, including requirements for trap marking [6.02 (f)]. However, we believe that the dates of the proposed seasonal closure should be of more precautionary duration.

Seasonal Closure to Protect Right Whales

We request that a closure of the proposed area (in addition to the existing area closed seasonally to trap/pot gear) begin on January 1 of each year and extend through at least May 15 unless aerial surveys have verified that there are fewer than 3 right whales remaining in the closed area over a period of at least 5 days, rather than re-opening automatically on April 30 as proposed. The federal prohibitions are based on a longitudinal data base of sightings in Cape Cod Bay that does not always capture the actual use of the Commonwealth's waters.⁵ Because right whales often linger in Massachusetts waters, the Commonwealth has, in several years, had to extend the restricted times/ areas; including an extension earlier this year when the presence of right whales required an extension of protections into the month of May.⁶ It is important that the dates of the precautionary closure capture the times when right whales have been reliably documented in Cape Cod Bay and coastal waters of Massachusetts. Moreover, we strongly support a proposed amendment of the regulations that would enlarge the area that would be subject to the current Large Whale Seasonal Trap Gear Closure, making it applicable to all waters under jurisdiction of the Commonwealth (i.e. the proposed amendment to 322 CMR 12.04, 12.08, and 12.11). Our organization strongly supports this proposed amendment to increase the area covered by the current Large Whale Seasonal Trap Gear Closure to include all waters of the Commonwealth.

Additional Measures

We support the Commonwealth having the ability to extend the closure if right whales remain longer than anticipated in Massachusetts state waters.(i.e., the proposal for Fixed Gear Closure Extensions in 322 CMR 12.04).

The HSUS also supports the Commonwealth's proposal for a seasonal gillnet closure in Cape Cod Bay (322 CMR 12.04, 12.08, and 12.12).

We also support other aspects of the state's proposal, designed to reduce risk of potentially fatal entanglements. That is, we support the proposed Prohibition on Single Lobster Traps for Vessels of a Certain Size (322 CMR 12.06) and proposals regulating Vertical Buoy Line Maximum Diameter for Commercial Trap Gear (322 CMR 12.06).

⁴ <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/proposed-amendments-to-division-of-marine-fisheries-regulations>

⁵ The National Marine Fisheries Service's regulatory closure of the Cape Cod Bay Restricted Area includes Cape Cod Bay and portions of the Outer Cape. The Massachusetts Restricted Area, is closed for a portion of the year (January 1-April 30)

⁶ See for example: Cape Cod Bay Restrictions Extended to Protect Right Whale Calves. Cape and Islands News. April 29,2020. At: <https://www.capeandislands.org/post/cape-cod-bay-restrictions-extended-protect-right-whale-calves#stream/0>



Thank you for taking swift and strong action to protect critically endangered North Atlantic Right whales whose survival relies on their safety while feeding and foraging seasonally in waters of the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sharon B. Young". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon B. Young
Senior Strategist, Marine Issues

From: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Gilvarg, Craig \(EEA\)](#)
Cc: [Wall, Troy \(EEA\)](#)
Subject: FW: Cabinet Slides
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:07:00 PM
Attachments: [Cabinet Slide DMF Protected Species.pptx](#)

Slides here.

From: Silva, Jared (FWE)
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 3:42 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Cc: Glenn, Robert (FWE) <robert.glenn@mass.gov>
Subject: RE: Cabinet Slides

From: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Glenn, Robert (FWE) <robert.glenn@mass.gov>; Silva, Jared (FWE) <jared.silva@mass.gov>
Subject: FW: Cabinet Slides

I could use some help with this

From: Wall, Troy (EEA) <Troy.Wall2@mass.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:57 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Cc: Greco, Bob (FWE) <bob.greco@mass.gov>; Gilvarg, Craig (EEA) <Craig.Gilvarg@mass.gov>
Subject: RE: Cabinet Slides

Hi Dan,

Just checking in on this. Let me know if I can help.

Thanks!

Troy

From: Wall, Troy (EEA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 3:12 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Cc: Greco, Bob (FWE) <bob.greco@mass.gov>; Gilvarg, Craig (EEA) <Craig.Gilvarg@mass.gov>
Subject: RE: Cabinet Slides

Hi Dan,

Could we get a slide that recaps the public hearings on the new lobster fishing / right whale regs and

next steps?

Thanks!

Troy

From: Wall, Troy (EEA)

Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 11:56 AM

To: Ferrarese, Brian (DEP) <Brian.Ferrarese@mass.gov>; Cooper, Stephanie (DEP) <stephanie.cooper@mass.gov>; Connelly, Bridget (DCR) <bridget.connelly@mass.gov>; Ryan, Jacqueline (DCR) <jacqueline.ryan@mass.gov>; Ridlen, Jessica (ENE) <Jessica.Ridlen2@mass.gov>; Greco, Bob (FWE) <bob.greco@mass.gov>; Bouchard, Alisha (AGR) <alisha.bouchard@mass.gov>; Randle, Ashley (AGR) <Ashley.Randle@mass.gov>; Engler, Lisa Berry (EEA) <lisa.engler@mass.gov>; Marcelonis, Megan (EEA) <megan.marcelonis@mass.gov>; Rao, Vandana (EEA) <vandana.rao@mass.gov>; McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>; Truschelli, Joseph M (DPU) <Joseph.M.Truschelli@mass.gov>; Zaltman, Alexandra (DPU) <Alexandra.Zaltman@mass.gov>; Connors, Nick (DCR) <Nick.Connors@mass.gov>

Cc: Gilvarg, Craig (EEA) <Craig.Gilvarg@mass.gov>; Healy, Sarah (EEA) <sarah.healy@mass.gov>

Subject: Cabinet Slides

Hi everyone,

I'm just sending a reminder about this week's cabinet book for the Secretary. I've attached the template for the slides, and here are the items for weekly updates:

- Drought
- DCR Parks Plan Update
- DCR/DFG Blue Hills Deer Hunt Slide (final results and their comparison to previous years)

I'll let you all know individually if there are additional requests for slides, as well. Please have slides to me by noon on Thursday.

Thanks,

Troy

CHAD MAHONEY
F/V FIRST LIGHT
887 Nantasket Avenue
Hull, MA 02045
Cmahoney5@verizon.net

December 11, 2020

Daniel McKiernan, Director
251 Causeway Street
Suite 400
Boston, MA 02114
Marine.fish@mass.gov

RE: Proposed Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing

Dear Mr. McKiernan,

I attended the December 8th zoom hearing regarding the proposed closure of commercial trap gear in all state waters. I understand the State is up against the whale restrictions and is working to help the endangered species. In doing so however, the State's actions are negatively affecting the commercial lobster industry. If the closure takes effect, I will lose out on at least three months' worth of commercial lobster fishing in state waters. Not only will I lose out on that two months' worth of income, but I employ two sternman who will also lose that income.

With all of the past regulations imposed against the lobster fisherman due to the whale issues, our industry has been hit hard and limited in being able to conduct our business. We have already had to adapt our business to protect the whales with such measures as breakaway rope and our MA Lobsterman's Association has spent thousands of dollars in litigation against whale litigation. At some point, human lives and businesses must be prioritized. There is no other fishery that we can work during the three proposed months of closure so we have no ability to make up for that lost work and income.

I urge you to consider the lobster industry and do whatever possible to sustain our businesses.

Sincerely,

Chad Mahoney
Chad Mahoney

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of lissalarosa@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:56:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Lisa La Rosa
6 Kristine Ln
Haverhill, MA 01832-8817

From: [CARL HOWARD](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#); [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New regulations
Date: Friday, December 11, 2020 9:37:10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Fixed Gear Closures

4 Recreational Lobsters and Crap Trap Gear Haul-Out Season

From Labor Day to Memorial Day -The reasoning is that they haul gear on weekends after Labor Day the weather starts to come up so if they can't haul gear on the weekends it will go onto the following weekend and so on and I think this will help with the ghost gear over the winter.

Trap Gear Modification and Restrictions

4 Prohibition on Single Lobster Traps for Vessels of a Certain Size

All with overall length of 29' or greater - Proposal if fishing single traps to use breaking strength of 300 pounds this will be way less poundage than proposed. I do not think vessels 29' should be exempt in our area most of the boats that fish for lobsters in our area are under 29' very few boats are over 29' it should be all or nothing. For over 30 years I fished singles and I built a bigger boat for safety reasons due to health problems which is documented handicap and now I will have to hire more people and it will cut into my bottom line which I cannot afford and it would be impossible for me to fish trawls I tried fishing trawls with the bigger boat and got caught in the line and got dragged to the stern luckily it was not a open stern boat. The past eight years have I used these breakaways and gear lost was minimal and gear lost was to fishermen and boats. The state has always been the leader in most Regulations and I feel this is a little overboard.

Carl Howard

From: [wanda sisum](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Comment on last nights hearing
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:18:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Daniel,

My name is Wanda Sisum DVM and I have volunteered with IFAW for years. It was through them that I had a link to your hearing. I was simply wondering if there could ever be state or federal tax incentives to help fishermen switch to ropeless technology in order to offset the cost. Like what we get for using solar panels. Have you thought of tapping MIT students to come up with a tech that wouldn't cost as much yet be functional?

It's great to have the lines break at 1700lbs but my concern is we are going to wind up with a lot more lost gear in the water as whales break these lines, which will also cost the fishermen money. It just seems ropeless is what we should be ultimately striving for.

I'm sure you're very busy so I don't need a reply, just wanted to share my thoughts. Thank you for your efforts.

From: [George Conlow](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Comment on Proposed Regulations for protecting Right Whales
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:06:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am not an expert. I just love the right whales and am pleased when I see them on the cape. I appreciate continued movement toward protecting these whales.

My worry is that whales of all sizes and ages can get entangled and 1700 break ropes might not protect the youngest and/or smallest of whales.

Also, I think that 1700 break ropes **MUST** be studied afterwards if this goes into effect. You **HAVE** to collect data on these ropes to see if the change is actually effective.

I have learned that ropeless fishing is possible and would make an enormous difference in the protection of the whales. This would probably be very expensive for fisherman so maybe there could be incentives and help for impacted fisherman.

But on the other hand, I think that some sort of accountability should be put in place. Maybe all ropes have to be tagged with an ID number or something so that fisherman who's ropes get entangled with a whale are alerted and then we'll know where the lines were placed, etc.

George Conlow

From: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#); [Reed, Story \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Pugh, Tracy \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: South shore sleeve costing
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 1:18:21 PM

From: gilchrestc@novabraid.com <gilchrestc@novabraid.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:40 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Cc: Glenn, Robert (FWE) <robert.glenn@mass.gov>; loricaron3@aol.com
Subject: South shore sleeve costing

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Dan,

I attended last evening's virtual public hearing and wanted to circle back on comments made regarding the cost and availability of the South Shore sleeve for creating reduced break strength vertical lines. Some mention was made that DFW had obtained some 4000 sleeves recently and I was glad to hear that the sleeves had been provided in a timely fashion (two weeks was what I heard). What I was distressed about was the statement that the sleeves may cost fishermen over \$5 per 6' sleeve. I was called this morning by a lobsterman from the Nahant saying that nobody would buy or use the sleeves at a cost of \$5 per sleeve but would instead simply tie a knot in the line OR splice in a ¼" rope section into their vertical lines. I believe whoever came up with that sort of price was either misinformed OR in the case of the DFW purchase, perhaps the dealer that sold the sleeves may have thought that the Mass government would pay whatever they asked for and was selling the sleeves to you at a substantial profit.

While our company, being a Canadian company and sells only to wholesale distributors, can't set pricing for consumers or sell direct to the fishermen in the Commonwealth, I can assure you that the current wholesale price of the sleeves would allow for a healthy profit margin at the distributor level while keeping the cost per sleeve to the fisherman under \$2.50 even with a keystone markup. I will also add that the sleeves are cut to 6' lengths and that recent studies by Amy Knowlton, et al in 2018 indicated that the sleeves were still effective on 3/8" rope when cut to a 3' length. Doing so would make the sleeve far more affordable with up to 96 sleeves that could be rendered from the stock package. I would advocate that sleeves being used on 5/16" line should not be cut short as that may reduce the grip the sleeve can exert of the smaller diameter ropes when not under tension.

Additionally, while not directly a part of the current regulatory proposal, the elephant in the room with acquiring new gear for the fishery must contain language that addresses gear marking.

Whether it is the red rope, the candy stripe rope, or our rope sleeves being used to identify gear used in state waters, you really should not expect a company or fishermen to spend substantial amount of time and money creating vertical lines to comply with proposed regulations in a very short period of time and then pull the rug out from under them saying that they need to modify the

gear again to accommodate a color change regulation. As a manufacturer, we have limited selection of colored yarns that can be used to make the sleeves and still achieve the desired break strength mandated by state and possibly federal regulators. I suspect that would be the case with the 3 strand rope that Beth Casoni has been involved with acquiring.

Finally, I am somewhat concerned that as a participant in the development of the contrivance used to mitigate whale entanglements, that nobody from the Commonwealth, other than Rob Martin has included Novabraid in any discussions as to how we can work together to have solutions in place when regulations are implemented. The sleeve solution to minimizing whale entanglements has literally been available for 5 years and our efforts to date have included a substantial amount of R&D, public involvement, and interaction with a wide range of industry associations and scientific researchers all at a substantial cost to our company. To be fair, we would not have undertaken any of these initiatives if we didn't strive to offer a solution to keep lobstermen on the water while keeping the whales safe within their habitat. I welcome any opportunity to be included in future discussions and interactions with your agency with regards to providing solutions to the whale entanglement issues at hand.

Respectfully yours,

Chuck Gilchrest

Novatec Braids Ltd.

gilchrestc@novabraid.com

01-774-328-4473 (mobile)

From: Tyler Macallister <fvcynthiac@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:33 AM
To: 'jared.silva@mass.gov' <jared.silva@mass.gov>
Subject: Proposed lobster closure
Importance: High

I am a little confused by the proposed closure of area 2 to winter fishing for lobsters. This is for the most part the only time of the year that small scale state lobstermen from Buzzards Bay area catch lobsters in the inshore fishery. Additionally, interaction with right whales in this area is nearly non-existent. I have several friends who are state licensed commercial lobstermen who fish the winter fishery who will be decimated by this.

I can understand restrictions in area 1 (Cape Cod Bay), as I have seen the whales many times from February until about May 1 both from the air and from the boat. I have never seen a right whale in Buzzards Bay or anywhere near the Elizabeth Island chain or Martha's Vineyard.

The fishery for lobsters in MA is unique, those that fish north of the Cape and Cape Cod Bay start fishing in May/June and haul out in November/December. Whereas, those that fish Buzzards Bay and around the Elizabeth Islands and the Vineyard set gear in November/December and haul the gear out in April/May. If this proposal is accepted, the lobstermen of SE Mass will be out of business for a problem that does not exist.

I am not fishing for lobsters in area 2, but I do recognize when a proposal is unfounded and the damage it can do is severe at time when all fisherman are feeling strains due to COVID-19.

Thank you for your time!!

Have a great day!!

Tyler Macallister, Owner/Captain
F/V Cynthia C²
(508) 221-8991 (m)
fvcynthiac@comcast.net

From: [Tiff DeGroot](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 9:56:06 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

[add more here]

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Brendan Adams](#)
To: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#); [Reed, Story \(FWE\)](#); [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Beth Casoni](#); [Dana Pazolt](#); [Dameon P](#)
Subject: Public Comment on New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:42:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

The following is my public comment on proposed regulations effecting fixed gear fisheries that occur in Massachusetts state water and are regulated by Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries. I will keep this as brief as possible since the fine details of each part could be debated extensively and I assume that there are plenty of other comments to read.

Regarding further fixed gear closures: What DMF has been doing (dynamic closures) has been working rather well, lets not add more draconian measures just to appease the myriad of egos who think they know better than everyone else. This (lobstering) is already turning into more of a derby fishery, lets not further compound that. The current dynamic closure seems to work ok, I don't see how more closures will help. DMF has been doing a good job to the best of its ability.

Regarding Recreational Lobster/Crab Fishery Haul Out Season: This should have been in effect decades ago. If the traps are there much after Labor Day they are probably being abandoned. Doesn't Maine have a five trap limit for recreational lobstering? That seems like something we could all have an honest discussion about. Maybe we should consider that.

Conch Pot Haul-Out Period: Does anyone even catch conchs where whales of any type occur in Massachusetts state waters? Why are the 'turtle huggers' so hot to try and limit the conch fishery? Does anyone here even catch conchs in the spring? How about we just let the current conch rules stay the way they are without any further closures, unless the area to be fished is the same as where a lobster haul out period is occurring. Does that make sense to anyone?

1700-lb. Breaking Strength Contrivance and Vertical Line Maximum Diameter for commercial: I personally think this is rather redundant considering that we are already using mandatory 600-lb. breakaways by the buoy. I did test the 1700-lb. breaking strength line and although it is OK. I think we could just simplify this proposed rule with a maximum line diameter rule instead of a lengthy set of regulations involving breaking strength maximums and weak contrivances. If we are forced by the engo machine and NOAA into going the contrivance route, then lets leave all the available options open so we can all use what we think is best. I personally don't want to go with the 'south shore sleeve' option myself, but that may work for other people. Lets leave all options open if we are forced into it, but it would be simpler to just make a maximum diameter vertical line rule. 3/8" for trawls, 5/16" for singles seems reasonable.

Vertical Line Maximum Diameter For Recreational: I agree. 5/16" or smaller

Prohibition on Single Lobster Traps for Vessels of A Certain Size: This is highly discriminatory and will cause further consolidation in the industry. Fishing singles evens a competitive playing field for people with smaller boats or people who fish alone. We have seen a lot of over capitalization in the industry with money flowing in from other places than fishing. Allowing the greediest, best funded people to take over is not ok. Also, competition for bottom is already ugly. It will be way worse if everyone is trying to cram trawls into the same 8 depth contours. Frankly, anyone who wants to fish singles, which are proven by all available science to be much safer for whales and always have lower diameter buoy lines, should be allowed. If you want a maximum size vessel for singles, lets go with what ever Jeffery Souza's new vessel length is, 45' I believe. That would leave plenty of leeway for everyone. It is going to be a complete horror show if everyone goes to trawls in the coastal lobster fishery. People should be allowed to fish the gear configuration that they deem reasonable, singles or trawls. I personally think multiple traps fished on

one buoy line also will have a lot of issues. I fish singles and trawls.

Cap on Seasonal (student) Lobster Permits: That seems reasonable given the data related to it and the fact that the permits turn over in reasonable amounts of time.

Ropeless fishing: It is not going to work. Not because we (fishermen) are all resistant to it, but because it will not work. The end result is really expensive ghost gear, and (maybe) retrieval by the use of a grapple. The technology isn't there, and the people pushing the technology are either clueless, or chasing grant money and dollar signs. I personally am deeply convinced that Desert Star Systems and Woods Hole group are up to forcing vessel monitoring upon us, and that this push is backed by powerful egos, who most likely have skin in the game and money to gain by it being shoved down our throats. Woods Hole Group is partnered with Desert Star Systems to build hopeless fishing technology. Despite their best efforts to create a fairy tale that ropeless fishing will work great, that we all want it, and that we will save money by using it, those are all false statements made on purpose. Even the eco-terrorist Richard "Max" Strahan says the right whales will go extinct if there are zero vertical lines in the whole Atlantic, so what are really we debating here. We (fishermen) have all bent over backwards to do our part, and made great results (600-lb. Breakaways). I think all fishermen see themselves as stewards of the ocean, much more than engo employees for that matter. But we have limits, and ropeless fishing is it. Anyone (fisherman) who is saying they want ropeless fishing must be getting paid to say it. My spell check keeps changing ropeless to hopeless. That seems pretty astute.

I will have more comments after I watch the meetings.

Thank You,

Brendan Adams

From: [Michael Kozuch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whales
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 6:39:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. McKiernan -

Thank you for your efforts to protect Right Whales. The proposed regulations are insufficient and do not completely address the issue of entanglements, the leading cause of right whale deaths. 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once in their lives, and over half of the population has been entangled more than once. We need to get rope out of the water—and fast. Ropeless fishing gear can help solve the problem of right whale entanglements, while helping the fishing industry thrive. A pathway towards advancing ropeless gear permitting is currently not being considered by DMF in its draft regulations.

Thank you.

Michael Kozuch
Boston, MA 02127

From: [shannon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right whales
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 5:03:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan,

As a marine animal rescue volunteer for Mystic Aquarium, I am thrilled and humbled every time I have the privilege of participating in a rescue. As you know, Right whales are in danger from boat strikes, nets and ropes. I agree that our intrepid fisherpeople need to make their living from gathering fish but they should not be using methods dangerous to creatures for which they are not gathering. Let's remove the methods that are dangerous - not just to Right whales but to all species in our beloved Atlantic. Dolphins, sea turtles, mahi mahi and many others are killed by these abandoned materials for no reason other than carelessness. Let's build a more responsible culture where leaving any kind of line (fishing line, ropes, nets, the whole range) in or near the ocean and carelessly striking a marine animal are crimes that are actively enforced. Maybe nets etc should have tracking devices on them? A decrease in speed limits would make spotting animals under the surface a lot easier. There have to be other fishing towns that can supply other modern ideas which have brought success, which can be used here. Let's not lose one more endangered animal.

Thank you.

Shannon Kelley

From: [Rob Morris](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Ropeless fishing
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:27:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dan,

I am amazed and perplexed by your comments about ropeless fishing technology. I would like to meet with you and discuss our Ropeless system with you. Our system is commercially available and addresses the problem of set over and gear conflicts with mobile fishing gear. For just \$25 anyone on the water with a cell phone and our Trap Tracker application can virtually see where our ropeless gear has been set. There is a group pushing the false narrative that marking gear at the surface is not good enough but that is just not accurate. We have test results that shows in fact, ropeless gear does not move during storms like buoyed gear would move.

You are promoting the use of weak rope/links when as far as I know, there is no scientific data that weak rope would even work. Has anyone done a test on a right whale to determine how they pull when entangled on a trap? From what I know that 1700 Lb. number was interpolated from what a navy dolphin can pull.

Weak links if they actually worked will still leave thousands of traps on the bottom ghost fishing.

Best Regards,
Rob Morris
Product Line Sales Engineer
4 Little Brook Road
West Wareham, MA 02576
Office: 508-356-9712
Mobile: 508-524-8894

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ueG6T9nukmE>



[Acoustic Releases](#) | [USBL](#) | [MRU](#) | [Side Scan Sonars](#) | [Sub-bottom Profilers](#) | [Bathymetry](#) | [AUV & ROV Sonars](#) | [Combined & Customized Solutions](#)

CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION

This electronic transmission, including any documents or data attached hereto, may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information. This information is intended for use strictly by the recipient(s) named above. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender and delete the message and any attachments. Any unauthorized disclosure, copying, distribution, or use of the contents of this message is strictly prohibited

From: [Paul Grohne](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Ropeless
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:17:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan,

I attended the public hearing tonight and I'm just a retired physical therapist who doesn't understand the ins and outs of fishing gear, after visiting <https://ropelessforrightwhales.com/>, I just want to add my voice to encourage ropeless gear because it seems like that type of gear is less harmful to whales. Thanks and have a nice day.

Paul Grohne
pgrohne@yahoo.com
617 429-4331

From: [heather bring](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:59:29 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

heather bring
Westerly, RI 02891

From: [Kira Kasper](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:57:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kira Kasper
Orleans, MA 02653

From: [Scott Gorn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:54:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Scott Gorn
Wilbraham, MA 01095

From: [Drew Suffoletta](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:52:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Drew Suffoletta
Cincinnati, OH 45218

From: [Donna Holland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:49:13 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Donna Holland
Cranston, RI 02920

From: [Colleen Barrett](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:47:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Colleen Barrett
Provincetown, MA 02657

From: [Karla Kelley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:44:29 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Karla Kelley
Salem, MA 01970

From: [Ashley Stokes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:42:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ashley Stokes
Haverhill, MA 01832

From: [Bianca Carreiro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:39:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Bianca Carreiro
South Dartmouth, MA 02748

From: [Pam Kroeber](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:36:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Pam Kroeber
Mystic, CT 06355

From: [Martha Gilmore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:33:41 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Martha Gilmore
Groton, CT 06340

From: [Suresh Sundaram](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:29:43 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Suresh Sundaram
Lexington, MA 02421

From: [William Oakes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:23:43 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

William Oakes
East Sandwich, MA 02537

From: [Mary Reidt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:21:13 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary Reidt
Spring Hill, FL 34606

From: [Zane M](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:18:35 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Zane M
Los Altos, CA 94022

From: [Tina Grosowsky](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:15:10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tina Grosowsky
Hudson, MA 01749

From: [Hayley Rinaldi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:12:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Hayley Rinaldi
North Hollywood, CA 91602

From: [Lindsay Vincelette](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:09:25 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lindsay Vincelette
Delmar, NY 12054

From: [Kelli Martony](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:06:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kelli Martony
Lompoc, CA 93436

From: [Bonnie Hackett](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 12:01:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Bonnie Hackett
South Berwick, ME 03908

From: [Chelsea Melzer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:58:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Chelsea Melzer
Gainesville, FL 32605

From: [Pam Carr](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:55:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Pam Carr
Westerly, RI 02891

From: [Amir Ehsani](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:52:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amir Ehsani
West Newton, MA 02465

From: [Hilary Meyer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:49:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Hilary Meyer
Bourne, MA 02532

From: [Rachel Gregg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:47:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rachel Gregg
Exeter, NH 2579

From: [Laurie Macha](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:42:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Laurie Macha
Baltic, CT 06330

From: [ALLISON HABEKOST](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:37:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

ALLISON HABEKOST
San Clemente, CA 92673

From: [Kelly Eaves](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:35:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kelly Eaves
Lisbon, CT 06351

From: [Amanda Taft-Pearman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:32:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amanda Taft-Pearman
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Jeffrey Knaus](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:41:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jeffrey Knaus
Ross, CA 94957

From: [Christine Elie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:39:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Christine Elie
Haverhill, MA 01832

From: [Peter Ajemian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:36:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Ajemian
Bridgewater, MA 02324

From: [Sheri Carl](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:32:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sheri Carl
Ashland, MA 01721

From: [Emily D Adams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:29:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Emily D Adams
West Suffield, CT 06093

From: [Mary Ann Clark](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:25:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary Ann Clark
Weatogue, CT 06089

From: [Julia Carfagno](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:21:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julia Carfagno
Boston, MA 02128

From: [Tiffany Haverfield](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:18:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tiffany Haverfield
Boston, MA 02108

From: [Robert Humphrey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:16:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robert Humphrey
Warner, NH 03278

From: [Christiane Kovarik](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:14:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Christiane Kovarik
Wiscasset, ME 04578

From: [charlie burns](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:09:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

charlie burns
Norwalk, CT 06850

From: [Deborah Fexis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:03:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deborah Fexis
Nottingham, NH 03290

From: [Saskia Vanderhoop](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:58:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Saskia Vanderhoop
Cotuit, MA 2635

From: [John Young](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:54:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John Young
Roslindale, MA 02131

From: [winn wilson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:51:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

winn wilson
Willimantic, CT 06226

From: [Noah Hanmer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:49:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Noah Hanmer
Bristol, RI 02809

From: [Donna Soodalter-Toman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:44:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Donna Soodalter-Toman
Gloucester, MA 01930

From: [Cathie Mestemaker-Harris](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:38:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Cathie Mestemaker-Harris
Plainfield, CT 06374

From: [Susan McCarthy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:34:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan McCarthy
Brewster, MA 02631

From: [Erica Canestraro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:31:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Erica Canestraro
Chatham, MA 02633

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:27:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01831

From: [Donna Thomas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:22:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Donna Thomas
Plainfield, VT 05667

From: [Janice Banks](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:19:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Janice Banks
Center Barnstead, NH 03225

From: [Hadley Clark](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:16:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Hadley Clark
Woods Hole, MA 02543

From: [MaryDana Gershanoff](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:14:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

MaryDana Gershanoff
Lincoln, MA 01773

From: [Ellen Buchmaier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 1:01:31 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ellen Buchmaier
Walpole, MA 02081

From: [Eric Knowles](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: SINGLE TRAP ISSUE
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 9:29:24 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Evening Dan. I hope all is well in your world. This is Eric Knowles, out on Cape Cod. As a Nauset fisherman I'm sure you realize our position with singles. I am sure the findings of the ASMFC meeting in the winter of 2014 , or 2015 when we first really fought the single/rawl issue have been brought to light ? The findings showed trawl and gillnet to be over 80 % of entanglements with singles being in the single digits percentage wise. I understand that decreasing the occurrence of incidental takes could help, but switching to a manner of fishing that is more deadly seems to undercut the goal. I know we are in a tight spot with this and maybe we have to give them what they want to allow us to fish this year, BUT...If the end result is about the whales and not personal agenda then the facts have already spoken in regards to singles , haven't they?

Sincerely,
Eric Knowles

P.S. Thanks for your service over the years. You've been nothing but helpful in our fight.

From: [Bonnie Frank](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Whales
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 8:40:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing from Maine today with my concern on your proposed fishing regulations concerning the whales. I feel this is a waste of my time as if you as experts cannot see the damage of your own work I'm not sure I can help you. The stats are there, the answer to fish safely without harm is there with a great alternative but yet you take the money train? The harmful way? The destructive long term way? I guess I'm just a dumb lady that grew up with a Dad that was Coast Guard/ Navy for 17 years and world tours across the seas and saw it all-Nope , let's leave this to the experts- be those people please and reconsider.

Thank You and Praying you'll prove me wrong and do the right thing for all Gods creatures. Sincerely
Bonnie Frank

Words have no power to impress the mind without the exquisite horror of their reality.
Edgar Allan Poe

From: karenvergoni@gmail.com
To: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Closing Lobstering
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:52:37 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

During these economic times, how can MA consider closing lobstering on the South Coast?

Small businesses in these communities will go out of business if this goes into effect.

Please reconsider at tonight's hearing.

Sent from my iPhone

From: karenvergoni@gmail.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Closing MA Lobstering
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:55:10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

How can you consider closing lobstering in MA during these economic times brought on by a global pandemic.

Small businesses will go out of business as a result of this policy.

Please reconsider.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [David Duncan Dow](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [David Duncan Dow](#); [Michaela Morris](#)
Subject: Comments on Massa. Division of Marine Fisheries Proposed Regulations on Protected Species and Trap/Gillnet Fishing
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:53:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director Daniel McKiernan:

I am a retired marine scientist and grassroots environmental activist living on Cape Cod. I have been engaged in the NOAA Fisheries GARFO (Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office) dialog on large whale mortalities from entanglements in American lobster pot gear (i.e. Unusual Mortality Event under the Marine Mammal Protection Act). I attended a public hearing in Bourne, Ma. on the plan proposed by the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team to reduce North Atlantic large whale mortalities below one per year. Marine Mammal ENGOs challenged this plan in court and I gather that NOAA Fisheries will have to conduct an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) as part of a new plan to reduce mortalities. Many of these NARW mortalities occur in the Gulf of Maine/St. Lawrence and further offshore in deeper waters as the NARWs and American lobster shift their distribution in space and time as inshore waters respond to climate change; increased ocean noise; incompatible uses of ocean space (wind farms; large transportation vessels; US Navy training); etc.

Even though I was impressed at the Bourne meeting on the actions taken in Massachusetts state jurisdictional waters (0-3 miles) by Ma. DMF and lobster fishing organizations (which are expanded in these proposed regulations on trap and gill net fishing effects on protected species), it is hard to evaluate their adequacy in light of Marine Mammal ENGO Lawsuit/NOAA Fisheries EIS on their NARW Management Plan. Added to this uncertainty is the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Supplemental EIS on the Vineyard Wind 1 project in which the cumulative environmental impact assessment of the 20 wind farms to be built between North Carolina and New England between now and 2030 indicated potential negative effects on NARWs and fisheries management. During my time at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center- Woods Hole Laboratory, I served as Recreational Fisheries Coordinator; was a member of the New England Fishery Management Council's Habitat Plan Development Team which helped develop Omnibus Habitat Amendment 2 (released in 2018); served on a Task Force on Reauthorization of the MMPA in the mid-1990's and participated in the EMaX carbon flow model for the Northeast Continental Shelf Ecosystem.

The recent NOAA Fisheries 2020 State of the Ecosystem Report for the Mid-Atlantic and New England regions pointed out that climate change effects on the marine pelagic ecosystem would effect both Living Marine and Protected Resources management/conservation. The changes in the Gulf of Maine (which includes Cape Cod Bay) illustrates some of the consequence of rapid warming in the surface waters from Spring through the Fall on both the plankton at the base of the food chain (microbial and grazing food chains) and top down changes in predation/competition as predators and their prey shift in space and time. I would hope that the Ma. DMF and its constituents develop some type of adaptive, ecosystems-based management approach to address

these complex changes in the ecosystem that supports both NARWs and American lobster pot fishing. In recent years, periodic benthic anoxia events in the bottom waters of Cape Cod Bay have killed lobsters in their pots. This anoxia is likely due to a combination of nitrogen enrichment; increased ocean acidity and warming waters and shifts in ocean circulation. This has lead to a complex, dynamic ecosystem with non-linear interactions which runs contrary to the assumptions of the Northeast Atlantic Regional Ecosystem conceptual model (steady state ecosystem which is at equilibrium with environmental/human stressors).

Since I retired in 2009, I don't know what types of monitoring programs and NARW research efforts have been put in place to reduce mortalities from entanglements in lobster pot gear. The long term solution is obviously ropeless lobster gear, but I don't know if this is ready to be implemented in a cost effective fashion by the American lobstermen/women fishing in state jurisdictional waters. A team of scientists from Rutgers University; University of Rhode Island and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution are exploring the effects off of Atlantic City, NJ on NARWs. The NOAA Fisheries GARFO Protected Species Office has developed some new management tools (i.e. scenario analysis) to help convert monitoring and scientific studies of NARWs/lobster fishing into information useful for resource managers and their constituents. I have no idea what capability Ma. DMF has in this area for converting monitoring/scientific research data into useful information to support their proposed regulations on how trap and gill net fishing effects protective species conservation. When I chaired two Fishery/Ecosystem monitoring Task Forces at the NEFSC, we faced the challenge of being data rich, but information poor when it came to supporting a, EbM for managing lobster fishing and conserving NARWs.

Given the limited resources (\$ and people) available to the Ma. DMF, I would recommend forming partnerships with other entities: Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment; academic researchers; ENGOS and marine conservation entities; fishing organizations to find out changes in the distribution of NARWs/lobster fishing hot spots; the NOAA Fisheries Protected Species scientists/regulators; other Federal entities (BOEM and US Navy) ; etc.). Since the NARW population is down to 360 (?) animals or a hundred below their recovery target, we face an existential crisis which requires input from a variety of sources to reduce NARW mortality from lobster gear entanglements below one animal per year and increasing the calving rate of mature females, so that the population starts to rebuild once again. Thus in my view the proposed regulations are a step in the right direction, but may not be adequate to restore the population of critically endangered species like the NARW. It could help Humpback and Sperm whales which are also suffering as part of the UME crisis.

Thanks for your consideration of these comments.

Dr. David D. Dow
East Falmouth, Ma.

From: [Chris Ecklund](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Help us Save The North Atlantic right whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:01:44 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My family and I vacationed for 25 years on Cape Cod. We came every summer because of the natural beauty of the landscape and the incredible wildlife in the area. We also valued the appreciation that the majority of Cape Cod inhabitants demonstrated for their environment and the creatures that make their home here. It's why we chose to retire here full time. However, we now have a large concern about the recent proposed state's measures to reduce the impact of fishery entanglement on right whales, and other marine species. They are not sufficient to have the impact necessary to save the North Atlantic right whale.

The majestic North Atlantic right whale is at risk of extinction. The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements. *No right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years.* I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales. The proposed regulations are simply not enough to address the entanglement risks that right whales face in our Massachusetts' waters.

The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed. This includes Massachusetts state waters. These ropes pose a large threat of entanglement for our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale and therefore increase the likelihood of extinction.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at only 366, is rapidly declining. We could cause and see the extinction of right whales in our lifetime, but we can stop it!

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. Draft regulations would only require using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots. This is not enough. Breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles further reducing their numbers and long-term sustainability. To protect the North Atlantic Right Whale this proposal must be revised entirely, and provide for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. Extensive data indicate ropeless fishing gear has a 98.4 percent success rate, and multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today and keep the fishing industry healthy while protecting sea mammals including the North Atlantic right whale.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping our fisherman and the fishing industry viable. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the North Atlantic right whale. We can make a difference if we act now.

Thank you.

Christine Ecklund Groundwater and Paul S. Groundwater
Brewster, MA

From: [PLJ](#)
To: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Lobstermen
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:42:40 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

State....leave these guys alone.....your rules are bullshit

Sent from my iPad

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Samantha Greene](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:53:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Samantha Greene
133 Governors Ave
Medford, MA 02155

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Kathy Vadnais](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 1:35:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Kathy Vadnais
101 Providence St
Chicopee, MA 01020

From: [Tatiana Marshall](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Please help protect critically endangered right whales in Massachusetts waters
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:50:10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Massachusetts can be a leader in the fight to save the North Atlantic right whale.

With less than 400 individuals remaining, the North Atlantic right whale is one of the most critically endangered marine animals in the world. Entanglement in fishing gear and collisions with ships are pushing the species towards extinction. We must take strong action today before it's too late to save them.

North Atlantic right whales migrating through the waters of the East Coast must navigate a maze of deadly vertical rope. Ropeless fishing gear can be the solution that we need to save right whales and keep fishermen on the water.

cc: Director Daniel McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston, MA
02114

From: [Christine Elie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Entanglements
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 9:37:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I studied Marine Biology and now I'm a nurse. Every animal is part of an eco system...right whales are dying! Entanglements must be addressed! One entanglement is too many!

Christine Elie

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of whiteowl1@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 5:08:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Faith-Smith
290A Washington Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Lisi Brown](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 3:26:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Lisi Brown
79 Newhall Street
Lynn, MA 01902

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Alanna Kelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 9:34:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Alanna Kelly
153 Theodore Parker Road
Boston, MA 02132

Judith Embry
51 Blackstone Rd
Florida, MA 01247

Daniel J. McKiernan
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North

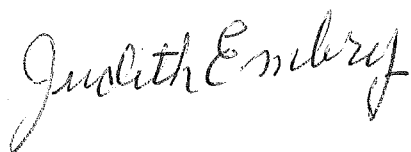
- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fishing.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope

Sincerely,

Judith Embry



November 30, 2020

Division of Marine Fisheries
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400
Boston MA 02114

Attention:
Daniel McKiernan

Dear Mr. McKiernan,

Re: Recreational Lobster and Crab Trap Gear Haul-Out Season

I am writing to protest the late opening of the recreational lobster season.

I spent many years as a commercial fisherman on Martha's Vineyard and have fished for lobsters recreationally for fifty years in the waters around the north shore of the island, as well as in the Nomans Island area. As a rule, I begin fishing my ten traps in early April and haul out in late August or early September when the lobsters become scarce and the autumn storms ramp up. I have found that the fishing in April is far better than anything past the first of September.

I don't believe that all Commonwealth waters need to be treated the same. In all the years that I have been fishing, I have never seen a whale of any kind in 15 to 20 feet of water, close to shore, where my traps are located.

If you must set haul-out dates, I urge you to consider setting the closed season dates to September 15 to April 15. The April 15 date is close to the existing Large Whale Seasonal Trap Gear Closure opening. The September 15 date is beyond the date that most recreational fishermen have hauled out and it accomplishes the goal of allowing time to identify and remove abandoned gear.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



David B. Tilton Sr

From: [david walker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 8:34:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Mass Fish,

Per whale and dolphin conservation there is an alarm at the gate!

- * Fewer than 360 Right Whales remain
- * 26 whales have died since 4/17
- * The species is in decline
- * No calves were reported during the 2018 calving seasons
- * The leading cause of death are entanglements in fishing gear and vessel strikes

The recovery of large whales is one of the key elements to combating climate change and saving our children's future. Emerging research has shown that whales act as ecosystem engineers and provide much needed nutrients to phytoplankton. Phytoplankton creates at least 50% of our oxygen. Whales also sequester hundreds of thousands of tons of carbon and provide base for the marine food web leading to abundant fish stock.

We have a moral obligation to leave this planet in better condition for future generations.

Sincerely,
David

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Caroline Pinsky](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whales
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 9:03:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom it May Concern:

I am a veterinarian living and practicing in Massachusetts and I spend a couple weeks each summer vacationing on Cape Cod with my husband and 3 kids. Each year we head out of Provincetown on a whale watch with the Center for Coastal Studies and we become thoroughly captivated by the whales and their peaceful beauty. We are deeply concerned about increasing protection for right whales in particular because their numbers are declining. I want my children to be able to bring their own children to see the whales some day.

So I am writing to express our family's deep concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.
Caroline Pinsky
George Conlow
Elliot Conlow
Simon Conlow
Hazel Conlow

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kristen Elmes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whales
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 6:53:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning-

As a teacher, I am always looking for a way to grow and learn. I have an especially fond memory of working with my nephew on a "research" project. He was 11 at the time and had been assigned the task of learning about a species of concern. He had chosen the Right Whale.

As I recall, we connected with work that was being led by the New England Aquarium. He was excited by the prospect of emailing questions to them.

Since I was a very small part of his project, I do not know what became of his effort. But I do know that his excitement was genuine- to have found an organization that was working to help the Right Whale; to protect the population and educate a population.

Now, more than a decade later, my home state of Massachusetts has the same opportunity- to right a terrible wrong- entangled Right Whales.

In my nephew's lifetime, in only a decade, we have LOST more whales, then gained.

Please.

Right this wrong!

Use your common sense-

The Right Whale is our collective responsibility generation to generation.

Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Kristen Elmes
Ashfield, MA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rebecca Wish](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save Right Whales
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 9:50:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear DMF People,

We don't have much time to save the right whales unless we address the issue of entanglements, the leading cause of their deaths.

Please let's get as much rope out of the water as we can.

Please consider this issue in your draft regulations. We must figure out a quick path to ropeless gear as soon as possible!

We have no time to waste to save the right whales.

Sincerely,

Rebecca

Rebecca Wish Esche
30 Lime St
Newburyport, MA 01950-2918

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Andy Berkvist](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:31:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Andy Berkvist
Northampton, MA 01060

From: [Brian Yurasits](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:28:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brian Yurasits
Portsmouth, NH 3801

From: [Margot Madden](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:22:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Margot Madden
Sparks Glencoe, MD 21152

From: [Patricia Walsh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:18:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Patricia Walsh
North Truro, MA 02652

From: [Barbara Fournier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:15:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Barbara Fournier
Milton, MA 02186

From: [Licia Fields](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:35:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Licia Fields
Brewster, MA 02631

From: [Collin Cheng](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: URGENT: Hearing on Draft Regulations
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 6:40:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

For the Division's consideration as a public comment,

As a Newton Wellesley baby, I've always taken pride in my Massachusetts heritage, given the Commonwealth's efforts to lead the way in respecting the dignity and lives of all. Yet these efforts are threatened with the current draft regulations proposed by the Division of Marine Fisheries today. I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Best,

Collin Cheng
International Affairs Candidate at the Elliott School of International Affairs, Washington D.C

From: [Eileen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: 322 CMR 12.06 Opposition
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 4:12:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Daniel McKiernan,

We oppose the proposed regulation changes 322 CMR 12.06; that would restrict single lobster trap fishing by vessels 29 ft or larger. Many responsible captains on Cape Cod would be put out of business.

Also right whales are not present in Cape Cod Bay during lobstering season as shown by aerial imaging.

Keep these Cape Cod families in business please.

Sincerely,

Eileen and Steve Hall
Dennis, MA

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathy L](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Atlantic Rt Whale Hearing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 1:47:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

As caretakers of our planet, we have a social and moral responsibility to maintain and preserve it. Whales play an essential part in the sustaining and preserving of our environment and all its species, including humans. Whales provide at least half of the oxygen we breathe. They combat climate change by cycling carbon from the atmosphere and they sustain fish stocks to name a few. Whales' importance cannot be overstated. With about 400 right whales left in existence, time is of the essence to act now to save the species. Please help save the Atlantic Right Whales. They are our future

From: [Sarah Roughneen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attention - Director Daniel McKiernan
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 1:56:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I oppose the proposal which would prohibit fishing single Lobster Traps for Vessels of a Certain Size (29 feet or larger) (322 CMR 12.06).

It is not right to force someone out of the fishery because the size of the boat they fish on is a few feet longer than the boats fishing around them. Further, there are no right whales in Cape Cod Bay during the open lobster season (aerial surveys prove this). This proposal makes no sense for this area.

Sincerely,

Sarah L. Roughneen
Dennis, MA

From: [G Speeth](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attention: Director Daniel McKiernan; re New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 3:51:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan,

The proposed regulations are insufficient and do not completely address the issue of entanglements, the leading cause of right whale deaths. 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once in their lives, and over half of the population has been entangled more than once. This is horrifying, and should not be allowed to continue.

We need to get rope out of the water as soon as possible. Ropeless fishing gear can help solve the problem of right whale entanglements, while helping the fishing industry thrive. A pathway towards advancing ropeless gear permitting is currently not being considered by DMF in its draft regulations. I urge you to address this issue in the finalization of the regulations now under consideration for final approval.

Respectfully,
Gwendolyn Speeth
Cambridge, MA

From: [Robert Sloane](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Attn: D. McKiernan New Right Whale Conservation Measures
Date: Monday, November 16, 2020 7:16:48 AM
Attachments: [Whale Regulations.docx](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attached you will find my comments.

Thanks,
Bob Sloane

From: [DAVID DEMSKI](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: closure
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 2:52:25 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is David Demski permit number 007023 fished area 2 for years full time only job. I have supported a closure for years to give eco system a rest and get lost gear retrieved from the bottom more importantly get traps without tags confiscated. I question how you will enforce this??? Fisherman will use short lines, small bouys and haul at slack tide most do this now in Gosnold and fish 2 miles from shore instead of three and law has never really been done. The EPO'S have a huge hurdle to cross cuase lots of area to cover in the state especially in winter with little man power/knowledge.

From: [Danielle M](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Daniel McKiernan
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 7:27:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director Daniel McKiernan,

I oppose the proposal that would prohibit fishing single Lobster Traps for Vessels of 29 feet or larger (322 CMR 12.06). If the captain fishes alone, setting trawls by himself, it would be too dangerous and labor intensive. This rule is senseless as there are no right whales in the bay during the summer lobster season which starts in the spring after the state has performed aerial surveys and determined that the right whales have left the bay to continue their northern migration to Canada. The right whale entanglements that everyone wants to eliminate occur primarily in the offshore fisheries between Florida and Canada with the Canadian snow crab fishery being a known problem. It isn't right to force someone out of the fishery just because the size of the boat they fish on is a few feet longer than the boats fishing around them. There are no right whales in Cape Cod Bay during the open lobster season (aerial surveys prove this) so this proposal makes no sense for this area.

Thank you,
Dan and Danielle Marquardt
120 Shore Drive, Dennis, Ma

From: [Davis, Shannon \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: 322 CMR 6.02
Date: Friday, November 20, 2020 11:33:03 AM

From: M <matthewquail@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2020 10:49 AM
To: Fish, Marine (FWE) <marine.fish@mass.gov>
Subject: 322 CMR 6.02

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Daniel

I am a recreational fisherman that is on the water as early as possible in the Spring and one of the last boats to pull out in the Fall. One of the things I love the most about early season boating is that Salem Sound is relatively uncrowded until Memorial Day weekend. And late season boating also has the benefits of limited crowds.

I am against proposal 322 CMR 6.02 that will limit my ability to set my lobster traps in Salem Sound.

I understand the need to clear lobster gear from areas frequented by right whales. But this proposal does not adequately address the areas frequented by right whales.

Thank you

Matthew

From: [Davis, Shannon \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: closure for recreational lobster fisheries
Date: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:49:52 AM

From: Don Wilkinson <donwilkinson70@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 14, 2020 9:15 AM
To: Fish, Marine (FWE) <marine.fish@mass.gov>
Subject: closure for recreational lobster fisheries

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I oppose the restriction of recreational lobster fishing (322CMR 6.02) with the closure shortly after Columbus Day. If you wanted to make it coincide with Thanksgiving, that would be more acceptable. There is still active fishing time through October in inshore waters, and with the waters warming catch into mid November is occurring.

From: [Davis, Shannon \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comment on New Protected Species Regulations
Date: Monday, November 16, 2020 8:50:24 AM

From: Randy Sigler <randy@striper.com>
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2020 8:17 PM
To: Fish, Marine (FWE) <marine.fish@mass.gov>
Subject: Public Comment on New Protected Species Regulations

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan,

I am writing to submit my comment related to the new proposed regulations for protected species.

I understand the hardship that these new regulations may place on fixed gear fishermen, yet my understanding is that there are much harsher proposals out there for consideration. Given the federal requirements to protect endangered species, these regulations seem reasonable and a better alternative to some of the ideas being floated out there (including no vertical lines).

In terms of the impact to recreations fishermen like myself, mid-late October and early November is one of the best times we have for recreational lobstering. However, I am happy to absorb this limitation if it is believed that it will positively impact the goal of protecting endangered species.

Thank you for allowing this public comment, and an even larger thank you for the hard work and dedication that you and your entire staff offer towards protecting the amazing public resources all of us who enjoy and earn our living from.

Sincerely,

Randy Sigler
Sigler Guide Service
1 Peabody Ln
Marblehead, MA 01945
www.Striper.com
randy@striper.com
617-459-1798

From: [Nancy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Fw: Time is Running Out to Help Save Right Whales
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:31:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please do more to protect the whales!!!

We can't mess around - ropeless fishing gear now!!! Please

Nancy burger
Haverhill Massachusetts

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Ropeless for Right Whales <info@ropelessforrightwhales.com>
To: Nancy-liane Burger <bmardigras@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 6, 2020, 03:15:37 PM EST
Subject: Time is Running Out to Help Save Right Whales

There are less than 366 North Atlantic right whales left. Take action today to help save them.

Image



Help Us Save Right Whales in MA: Act NOW

Image



Tell Massachusetts to Save Right Whales

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries just released draft regulations to protect right whales that migrate off our coast. These proposed regulations are insufficient and do not completely address the issue of entanglements, the leading cause of right whale deaths. 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once in their lives, and over half of the population has been entangled more than once.

We need to get rope out of the water—and fast. Ropeless fishing gear can help solve the problem of right whale entanglements, while helping the fishing industry thrive. A pathway towards advancing ropeless gear permitting is currently not being considered by DMF in its draft regulations.

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries is also accepting comments on the draft regulations until 12/18. Submit a comment to DMF today and share your thoughts. We don't have time to waste to save right whales.

SEND COMMENTS

Image



Image



Attend a Public Hearing

The right whale population is dwindling: scientists estimate that there are only 366 left.
Now is the time to act.

Sign up to attend a hearing and tell DMF that we need greater measures in order to save right whales from extinction.

December 8, 2020 (6PM)

December 9, 2020 (6PM)

RSVP

Image



Copyright © 2020 Ropeless for Right Whales

Ropeless for Right Whales. PO Box 508 611 High Street, Dedham, MA 02027

You are receiving this email because you are either a partner, member, or interested party in our Organization. If you received this message in error, please accept our apologies and feel free to unsubscribe.

[Unsubscribe](#)



From: [Neal Melanson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: I oppose a seasonal restriction on Recreational lobstering
Date: Monday, November 16, 2020 10:34:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

As a subsistence lobster fisherman I strongly oppose a seasonal restriction on Recreational lobstering.

No logical argument can be made that curtailing the season for "recreational lobster fishing" can contribute to the protection of endangered Right Whales. While recreational lobstering can occur out to 3 miles me and other local families in my Northshore community NEVER fish that far out, but stay inside the local rivers and sounds.

I motion that you strike this idea from the proposed legislation

--

Neal Melanson
89 Central St.
Rowley Ma. 01969

978 948 7189

From: [MICHAEL FOLEY](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Is so important for us to save our whales in order to preserve them from being extinct.
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 11:32:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Sent from my iPhone

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [ELLEN KILLAM](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 2:07:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

ELLEN KILLAM
23 Broadleaf St
Billerica, MA 01821

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Jen McKusick](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:02:24 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Mr. McKiernan, I do not know if you are a parent or not, but I implore you to think about what we are leaving for our next generation. I would like my grandchildren to be able to see and learn about all of the animals from my lifetime, not just read about how they used to exist when making things easier for business was more important than preserving our natural world. Please be courageous and stand up for saving our right whales, even if it is hard to do.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Jen McKusick
37 Ashuelot Rd
Northfield, MA 01360

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Jennifer Falcon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 10:26:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Falcon
176 Lincoln Street, B3
Worcester, MA 01605

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of jamoos@earthlink.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 3:07:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Jane Moosbruker
40 Brewster Ln
ACTON, MA 01720

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of backbaywoman@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 3:04:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

sheila larkin
407 so huntington ave
boston , MA 02130

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Margaret McGinnis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 11:39:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

I don't want these whales to head into extinction - every individual counts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Margaret McGinnis
7 Rockview Rd
Hull, MA 02045-3126

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [James Greene](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 10:24:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

James Greene
133 Governors Ave
Medford, MA 02155

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Gail Repensek](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 9:53:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Gail Repensek
58 Crystal Street
Haverhill , MA 01832

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Janise Fitzpatrick](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 9:41:16 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Janise Fitzpatrick
30 Tucker lane
Belchertown, MA 01007-9595

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Kimberly Sheehan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 4:40:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Sheehan
896 Boston Road
Billerica, MA 01821

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of lgray@umich.edu
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:10:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Gray
16 Symmes Street, Apt. 3
Roslindale, MA 02131

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Kathleen Byrnes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 8:34:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Byrnes
2 Cutler Rd
Paxton, MA 01612

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of wpoooh78@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 7:20:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Santos
50 Ginsburg Dr
Tewksbury, MA 01876-2677

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of briangin54@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 5:23:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Brian Gingras
52 Bradford Commons Lane
Braintree, MA 02184-8256

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Barry Kesselman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 5:12:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Barry Kesselman
45 Crocker Rd
4, MA 02155

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Matthew Gaffey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 4:52:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Matthew Gaffey
8 Harding Ave
Adams, MA 01220-1407

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Alexa Wall](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 2:51:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Alexa Wall
23 Tanbark Road
Marstons Mills , MA 02648

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of Lynnb@psych.umass.edu
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 1:32:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Lynn Bengston
37 North St
Belchertown, MA 01007

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Amy McCoy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 1:25:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Amy McCoy
280 Colrain Shelburne Road
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370-9671

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Michael Stuart](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 1:09:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Michael Stuart
11 Arlington Street
Auburn, MA 01501-2637

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Karen Wright](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 1:00:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Karen Wright
15 Normandy Rd
Framingham, MA 01702-2301

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of asm@amysophia.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 12:44:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Keep the North Atlantic right whale from going extinct.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Amy Sophia Marashinsky
89 Pine Grove
Amherst, MA 01002-2740

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Lonny LaChapelle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 12:40:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Lonny LaChapelle
42r chapel street
Westfield, MA 01085-3010

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Eileen Hennessy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 11:22:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Human-caused injuries and death are taking their toll on already declining populations, pushing these irreplaceable animals closer to extinction.

A mere 411 or so critically endangered North Atlantic right whales remain on our planet. It is of paramount importance that we do everything in our power to ensure the future survival of these majestic beings before it is too late.

Therefore, I call on you to support any and all legislation that will enhance protections for the North Atlantic right whale and ensure their continued presence in Massachusetts waters.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Eileen Hennessy
39 Berwick St.
Melrose, MA 02176

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Daniel Belachew](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 11:10:15 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Daniel Belachew
392 Washington Street #2
Norwood, MA 02062

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [b.coniglio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 11:07:14 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

b coniglio
P.O. Box 281
Boston, MA 02117-0281

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Danya Kuperstein](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 11:04:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Danya Kuperstein
448 Wethersfield st
Rowley , MA 01969

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Seamus Levine-Lukas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 11:02:31 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Seamus Levine-Lukas
33 Sleigh Road
Chelmsford, MA 01824

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [linda lewison](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:58:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

linda lewison
79 boardley rd
sandwich, MA 02563

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Stephanie Caruso](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:56:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Caruso
196 Ayer Rd
Harvard, MA 01451-1167

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Susan Bortolussi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:55:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Susan Bortolussi
16 Jaeger Dr
Westfield, MA 01085-5120

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Richard D'Apollo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:50:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Richard D'Apollo
48206 Carousel Ln
Lunenburg, MA 01462-2453

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Julia French](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:33:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Julia French
4 Chapel St
Norwood, MA 02062

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Casey Cochran](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:15:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Casey Cochran
337 HAVERHILL ST
North Reading, MA 01864-1450

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Kathleen McHendry](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 8:45:26 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McHendry
281 Chauncey Walker Lot 105
Belchertown, MA 01007

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of kmoore@abschools.org
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 8:36:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

We are now at a critical crossroad. We know the extreme state of vulnerability of the North Atlantic right whale species is in. We can not ignore the problems they face any longer. We are responsible for the tremendous decline in their populations and we have the ability to put plans in place to protect these whales. We have a moral and ethical responsibility as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Karen Moore
36 Charter Road
Acton, MA 01720-2931

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Beth Ross](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 5:55:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Beth Ross
28 High St
Beverly, MA 01915-2163

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Beth Ross](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 5:54:29 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Beth Ross
28 High St
Beverly, MA 01915-2163

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Marisa Shafer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 4:55:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Marisa Shafer
4 colliston road
Brighton , MA 02135

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Mark Cornebise](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 11:53:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Mark Cornebise
15 Ronald Road
Arlington , MA 02474

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of maryanna@foskettco.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 10:55:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

MaryAnna Foskett
101 Brantwood Rd
Arlington, MA 02476-8005

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Anthony Rosner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 10:55:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Anthony Rosner
156 School Street
Watertown, MA 02472

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Aaron Beer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 10:37:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Aaron Beer
15 Church St
Natick, MA 01760

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Fanny Whitman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 10:31:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Fanny Whitman
P O Box 191
Westport, MA 02791

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Stephen Donnelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 10:20:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Stephen Donnelly
6 Pinebrook Dr
Easthampton, MA 01027

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Steve Ollove](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 10:19:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Steve Ollove
105 Gregory Island Road
South Hamilton, MA 01982

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Brenda Murphy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 10:16:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Brenda Murphy
1438 Great Pond Road
North Andover, MA 01845

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [luana canale](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 9:45:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

luana canale
10 brookside avenue
boston, MA 02130

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of megan@thelepores.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 9:09:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Megan Lepore
93 Curtis Ave
Marlboro, MA 01752

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Allison Ludtke](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:54:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Allison Ludtke
109A Lexington Street
Watertown, MA 02472

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [LeeAllen Meyer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:54:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

LeeAllen Meyer
170 Bunker Hill St, 2
Boston, MA 02129

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of theambiencepeddler@charter.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:52:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Patrick Beaudry
192 stafford st
Worcester , MA 01603

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Sonja Baris](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:36:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Sonja Baris
86 Grove St
Clinton, MA 01510-3646

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Andrea Ferguson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:15:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Andrea Ferguson
158 Harris St
Granby, MA 01033

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Deborah Goodman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:59:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Deborah Goodman
65 Atherton Road, 1
Brookline, MA 02446-2770

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Jane Luu](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:37:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Jane Luu
104 Simonds Rd
Lexington, MA 02420-1621

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Anna Stein](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:30:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Anna Stein
25 Harvard Street
Melrose, MA 02176-4814

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of melifleming@hotmail.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:29:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Melissa Fleming
46 Chase St
Danvers, MA 01923-3228

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of amfoster@optonline.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:28:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Whales are sentient mammals, capable of thought, compassion and group endeavors. We must protect and preserve these wonderful creatures. Do not allow them to be one extinct on our watch.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

APRIL FOSTER
99 Pond Ave
Brookline , MA 02445

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Nanette Schieron](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 7:00:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

This species is very special, as all our whales are. It has been on the brink of extinction since whaling began, since it was the "right" whale to hunt for human purposes. It deserves to have safe waters to live and breed in and that requires human intervention for the good of this species.

We owe it to this whale to survive and thrive and with your help to transition to ROPELESS fishing gear, it has a chance.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Nanette Schieron
75 Damon's Point Road
Marshfield Hills, MA 02050

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of petbulldogs@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:47:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Robbins
34 Wilson Ave N
North Reading, MA 01864

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Kristin Masefield](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:46:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Kristin Masefield
5 Timothy Dr
West Bridgewater, MA 02379

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Wrenn Reed](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:43:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Wrenn Reed
1550 Beacon St
Brookline, MA 02446-2247

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Barbara B Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:43:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Barbara B
Crane st
Dedham, MA 02026

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of taatkins@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:39:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Todd Atkins
71 messenger st., 912
Plainville, MA 02762-2235

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of pismith2020@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:37:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

PAMELA J. SMITH
678 brush hill rd
Milton, MA 02186-1306

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Kevin Worker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:33:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Kevin Worker
153 Lions Mouth Rd
Amesbury, MA 01913

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of Dianewildes@comcast.net
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:30:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Diane Wildes
32 Coleman rd
Groveland, MA 01834-1021

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Virginia Jastromb](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:29:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Virginia Jastromb
73 Barrett St.
Northampton, MA 01060

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of maelstrom747@hotmail.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:28:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Storm
17 Lincoln Street
Norwood, MA 02062-2119

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of BetsyMattuchio@hotmail.com
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:27:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Betsy Mattuchio
94 Malvern st
Melrose, MA 02176-4827

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Shelley Hartz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:27:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- ? Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- ? A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- ? The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- ? A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Shelley Hartz
7 Baron Way
Littleton, MA 01460

From: [Ray Rock](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing Comments
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 1:30:27 PM

Attn Director Daniel McKiernan,

Your public comment e-mail sent on Nov 13th states the draft regulations are to “reduce the risk of entanglement.” Your Memo of Nov 13th states “only affect right whale conservation.” Understandably that is of great concern, but to include All of Massachusetts waters in these new regulations is unreasonable. According to NOAA, the North Atlantic Right Whale migratory routes and calving ground is south of Block Island, and the feeding area is mainly Cape Cod Bay including the waters north and eastward. I recreational lobster in Buzzards Bay, in 30’ or less of water, and sometimes in one of the back bays, all not close to the feeding grounds or route.

My comments on Recreational Lobster and Crab Trap Gear Haul-Out Season (322 CMR 6.02)

The season is short enough already, to shorten it even more is unnecessary, add a couple more weeks and make the haul-out season from Nov 15th - April 30th, this will allow DMF and MEP time to identify and remove lost or abandoned recreational trap gear.

Another option would be to follow the commercial trap gear closure periods of February 1 - April 30th.

To assist DMF and MEP, they could partner with the “locals” to assist them in reporting of abandoned gear they encounter. This could be done with education and outreach, via a link on their websites, advertisements, or inserts in the renewal notification for non-commercial lobster permits.

Comments on Vertical Buoy Line Maximum Diameter for Recreational Trap Gear (322 CMR 12.06)

The overview of the draft regulations for maximum line diameter does not offer any reasoning other than identification, it does not make sense and it is an undue cost to change the size of the buoy line for identification. I suggest deleting the requirement.

A commercial fisherman is required to mark only the Lic # on the buoy, a

recreational fisherman is required to have an “N” preceding the Lic # and then a sequential number (from 0-9) on the buoy, more than enough information to determine a pot owner without pulling the pot from the water to observe the line.

If the smaller line diameter change is meant to have a lower breaking strength, recreational requirements require a 600 lb. weak link in the line, about 3 times lower than the breaking strength of the buoy line.

As it is, my buoy line is routinely caught in the rocks and only after 1 season, I can see the wear and tear on the line. Over time, using 5/16” line, it will wear and break prematurely. Again, I only fish in Buzzards Bay, I think that recreational fisherman fish their gear in coastal waters and not in off shore waters used by migratory whales.

Thank you

R

From: mailagent@thesoftedge.com on behalf of [Alfred Mancini](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: New Protected Species Regulations Affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:34:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan:

As a concerned Massachusetts resident, I fear the North Atlantic right whale may go extinct in my lifetime. North Atlantic right whales are dying due to human actions. The DoMF, alongside NOAA, has the opportunity to make the necessary changes to save this species. I am glad to see our commonwealth is taking necessary steps to ensure the protection and survival of right whales by proposing new regulations for commercial fixed gear fisheries and recreational lobster and crab trap fisheries. Some of the changes I support include:

- Expanded closures for trap fisheries in all of Massachusetts waters.
- A new closed season for the buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap fishery.
- The DoMF retaining the ability to extend these closures based on North Atlantic right whale sightings.
- A marking system that will differentiate the gear that may be lawfully used in Massachusetts from heavier gear that may be used in the offshore exclusive economic zone or Canada.

I strongly encourage the DoMF to develop a plan for a full transition to ropeless technology in commercial trap fisheries as quickly and responsibly as possible. Removing vertical lines from the water is the only way to fully prevent entanglements and save this species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on enhanced protections for the North Atlantic right whale. It is my hope that my suggestions will be considered in this process and that the DoMF continues to prioritize right whale protections.

Sincerely,

Alfred Mancini
15 Kenneth Lane
Tewksbury, MA 01876-2910

From: [Jennifer Heilig](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: North Atlantic right whales
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 1:42:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

From: [Ryan Drohan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: NRW regulations public comment
Date: Monday, November 16, 2020 9:14:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern

I am against the seasonal closure in all commonwealth waters. This will just give more leverage to a seasonal closure in northern A1 federal waters. Please look into the economic impact if those federal waters would be lost. Jefferys ledge in the winter is a big part of our income so please do your research. I am for a endline less than 3/8 and a breaking point in the upper 1/3 of endline. I also would like to see a freeze on all new permit transfers and set up student license to coastal permit program similar to Maine. In my opinion we are allowing in too many new entrants who have more money than experience.

Sincerely
Ryan Drohan
F/V William G. Drohan
Rockport, MA
Permit #001574

From: [John King](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#); [me](#); [Jim](#)
Subject: Prohibition on fishing single Lobster Traps for Vessels of a Certain Size (322 CMR 12.06)
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 12:46:56 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Director McKiernan,

Having fished lobsters in Cape Cod Bay since I was a boy with my father in a skiff using wooden buoys, wooden traps and pegging lobsters with wooden pegs I have seen many changes to the fishery. As many of these changes have been for the good, I must oppose the single trap prohibition for vessels of a certain size as this would put us out of the fishery. I often fish alone when there is no crew available so trawls would be too dangerous and labor intensive to continue. We fish inside the Billingsgate exempted area where there are no right whales (thanks to the aerial surveys that follow the whales as they exit Cape Cod Bay in the spring) so this prohibition makes no sense for this area.

Sincerely,

Jim & John King
F/V Nonnie Babe

From: [john herrick](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Proposed regulations to trap and gear changes
Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:46:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Comments:

As a current recreational lobsterman, I fish my traps in the harbor through mid November and haul out Thanksgiving weekend.

As a former commercial lobsterman and father, I would love for my sons to have the opportunity to make money and gain appreciation for the marine environment. Limiting student lobster licenses is a slippery slope. How many current student lobster licenses are there? Are we limiting our next generation in the fishery?

Is the boat size and trap trawl requirement meant for only commercial fishermen? Fishing trawls as sport does not always make sense. (I fish two trap trawls just to not loose gear though).

Thank you,

John Herrick

From: [Timothy Field](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Protected Species Regulations affecting Trap and Gillnet Fishing
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 1:35:49 PM
Attachments: [rightwhalepubliccomment.odt](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attached is my public comment. Please confirm receipt.\

Thanks,

Timothy Field
508-264-3838

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

From: [Lynne Silva](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Recreational Lobster and Crab Trap Gear Haul-Out Season
Date: Monday, November 30, 2020 5:59:33 PM
Attachments: [mass dmf lobster closure.pdf](#)
[ATT00001.htm](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attention Director Daniel McKiernan

On behalf of David Tilton, I have attached a letter concerning the proposed Recreational Lobster and Crab Trap Gear Haul-Out Season.
Lynne Silva

From: [David R Grace](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Recreational Lobster closed season
Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 7:51:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I oppose the following proposed regulation:

4. Recreational Lobster and Crab Trap Gear Haul-Out Season (322 CMR 6.02). DMF is proposing to implement a new closed season for buoyed recreational lobster and crab trap gear. The closed season would run from the Tuesday following Columbus Day through the Friday preceding Memorial Day.

While few citizens fish recreationally through the winter, some do, and the amount of traps in the water is inconsequential to the vast amount of commercial traps in the water. A recreational lobster person should not be forced to stop feeding their family while commercial fishing is allowed. A compromise would be to close the fishery for December-March.

Thanks

David Grace
dgrace14@comcast.net

From: [Neal Melanson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Recreational Lobster Restrictions
Date: Tuesday, November 17, 2020 10:10:39 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I WANT TO BE ABLE TO BRING FRESH CAUGHT LOBSTER TO MY GRANDMOTHER ON CHRISTMAS DAY!!! AND HER JANUARY 16 BIRTHDAY.

https://www.facebook.com/neal.melanson/posts/10222055744816509?notif_id=1605582001401359&notif_t=feedback_reaction_generic&ref=notif

--

Neal Melanson
89 Central St.
Rowley Ma. 01969

978 948 7189

From: [Stephen Schmitt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whales
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:22:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please require rope less fishing gear so whales don't become entangled in fishing nets.

Sue Schmitt
Boxborough, MA

From: [diane.gordon-Sacchetti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Ripeness whales
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 4:54:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please it is our responsibility to save these mammals
We Must have ropeless fishing included in the bill

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Madison Kahn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 12:19:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Madison Kahn
Saddle River, NJ 07458

From: [Jennifer D'Angelo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 12:16:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer D'Angelo
Attleboro, MA 02703

From: [Madeline Gravante](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 12:13:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Madeline Gravante
Staten Island, NY 10304

From: [Kevin Serrano](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 12:11:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kevin Serrano
Raymond, NH 03077

From: [Katarina Heffron](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 12:08:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Katarina Heffron
Glen Head, NY 11545

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 12:04:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01832

From: [Helene Bank](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:58:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Helene Bank
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [Cecilia Curran](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:55:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Cecilia Curran
Mc Lean, VA 22101

From: [Luke Keating](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:53:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Luke Keating
Garden City, NY 11530

From: [Annie Cohen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:47:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Annie Cohen
Boston, MA 02114

From: [Ryan Ford](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:45:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ryan Ford
Amherst, MA 01002

From: [Grant Chryssicas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:43:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Grant Chryssicas
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

From: [Zack Mooney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:38:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Zack Mooney
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [William Podbela](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:35:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

William Podbela
Syosset, NY 11791

From: [Diane Sacchetti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:30:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diane Sacchetti
Prides Crossing, MA 01965

From: [Claire Nam](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:25:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Claire Nam
, 07423-1303

From: [Lozz Starseed](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:21:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lozz Starseed
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Kurt Hirschenhofer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:17:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kurt Hirschenhofer
Millis, MA 02054

From: [Michael Lynch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:14:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michael Lynch
Quincy, MA 02169

From: [Donna Parente](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:09:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Donna Parente
Milford, MA 01757

From: [Mary Lynch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:05:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary Lynch
Boston, MA 02113

From: [Mary Lynch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:01:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary Lynch
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

From: [Patrick Altieri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:57:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Patrick Altieri
Kansas City, MO 64111

From: [Patrick Altieri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:54:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Patrick Altieri
Kansas City, MO 64111

From: [Kathy Marini](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:50:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kathy Marini
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

From: [Mac Lynch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:45:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mac Lynch
Providence, RI 02906

From: [John White](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:39:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John White
Worcester, MA 01605

From: [Theodora Boura](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:35:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Theodora Boura
Brighton, MA 02135

From: [Richard Stafford](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:32:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Richard Stafford
Salem, MA 01970

From: [Jennifer Williams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:00:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Williams
Huntsville, AL 35803

From: [Joyce Darch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:57:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joyce Darch
Deltona, FL 32725

From: [Tim Nash](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:53:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tim Nash
Orlando, FL 32804

From: [Madison Lynch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:48:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Madison Lynch
Boston, MA 02113

From: [Linda Knowles](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:43:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Linda Knowles
Newton Upper Falls, MA 02464

From: [Jennifer Williams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:37:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Williams
Huntsville, AL 35803

From: [Victoria McDonald](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:35:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Victoria McDonald
East Freetown, MA 02717

From: [Christine Leeman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:32:00 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Christine Leeman
Fairhaven, MA 02719

From: [Ryan Cove](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:28:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ryan Cove
Longmeadow, MA 01106

From: [Rohan Bose](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:26:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rohan Bose
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:23:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01832

From: [Seth Coffey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:21:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Seth Coffey
Billerica, MA 01821

From: [Brendan Eddy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:18:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brendan Eddy
Worcester, MA 01609

From: [Joe Blatt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:12:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joe Blatt
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Suzanne Schmitt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:10:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Suzanne Schmitt
Boxborough, MA 01719

From: [Jeanne Gottfried](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:05:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jeanne Gottfried
Providence, RI 02906

From: [Janis Higgins](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:02:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Janis Higgins
Medford, MA 02155

From: [Peter Ajemian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:00:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Ajemian
Bridgewater, MA 02324

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:56:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01831

From: [Susan Daige](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:53:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Daige
Leicester, MA 01524

From: [Amy McCoy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:45:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amy McCoy
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

From: [Ann Walsh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:42:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ann Walsh
Dorchester Center, MA 02124

From: [Joseph Kramer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:37:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joseph Kramer
Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120

From: [Aadhya Shivakumar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:34:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Aadhya Shivakumar
Somerville, MA 02144

From: [Clare Ablett](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:30:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Clare Ablett
Dorchester Center, MA 02124

From: [Hannah Madden](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:27:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Hannah Madden
Rye Beach, NH 03871

From: [julianna hager](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:23:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

julianna hager
Allston, MA 02134

From: [Meghan Feely](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:20:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Meghan Feely
Hebron, ME 04238

From: [Max Ratner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:17:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Max Ratner
Southborough, MA 01772

From: [Jacob Feuerstein](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:13:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jacob Feuerstein
Lewisburg, PA 17837

From: [Robin Donohoe](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:11:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robin Donohoe
Newton, MA 02458

From: [Michael Foley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:08:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michael Foley
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Sarah Pereira](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:03:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sarah Pereira
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

From: [Laurie Vahedi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 7:01:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Laurie Vahedi
Los Altos, CA 94022

From: [Beth Arguin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:56:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Beth Arguin
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

From: [Kelly Duarte](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:54:20 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kelly Duarte
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

From: [Paige Thimmesch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:52:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Paige Thimmesch
Sterling, VA 20165

From: [Adelaide Taylor](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:46:31 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Adelaide Taylor
Boston, MA 02116

From: [Abigail Powers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:44:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Abigail Powers
Brookline, MA 02445

From: [Carol Berkeley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:38:26 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carol Berkeley
Washington, DC 20003

From: [Danielle Kanter](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:33:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Danielle Kanter
Boston, MA 02118

From: [Kabir Adhiya-Kunar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:28:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kabir Adhiya-Kunar
New York, NY 10033

From: [Jack MacKinnon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:25:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jack MacKinnon
Walpole, MA 02081

From: [Annie Nagle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:22:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Annie Nagle
Malden, MA 02148

From: [Cameron Sopala](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:19:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Cameron Sopala
Brooklyn, NY 11232

From: [Jocelyn Yang](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:16:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jocelyn Yang
Boston, MA 02116

From: [Elizaveta Koush](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:11:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Elizaveta Koush
Mountain View, CA 94040

From: [Archana Kulkarni](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:07:17 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Archana Kulkarni
San Jose, CA 95120

From: [Lucy Hale](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:04:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lucy Hale
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 6:00:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01832

From: [Kurt Hirschenhofer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:58:01 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kurt Hirschenhofer
Millis, MA 02054

From: [Peter Kahigian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:54:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peter Kahigian
Haverhill, MA 01831

From: [Alan Papszun](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:52:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alan Papszun
Stockbridge, MA 01262

From: [Daniel Gibson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:48:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Daniel Gibson
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [Martin Silberberg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:45:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Martin Silberberg
Pelham, MA 01002

From: [Joyce MacPherson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:43:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joyce MacPherson
Canton, MA 02021

From: [Erin Quinnan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:40:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Erin Quinnan
Haverhill, MA 01830

From: [Annaise Foureau](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:38:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Annaise Foureau
Mattapan, MA 02126

From: [Anthony Gilardi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:32:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Anthony Gilardi
Boston, MA 02127

From: [Anthony Gilardi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:29:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Anthony Gilardi
Boston, MA 02127

From: [Jodi Cloney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:27:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jodi Cloney
North Reading, MA 01864

From: [Jennifer Thornton](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:25:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Thornton
Leverett, MA 01054

From: [Eileen Anglin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:22:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Eileen Anglin
Barnegat, NJ 08005

From: [Victoria Koch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:20:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Victoria Koch
, L9C 0C2

From: [Eileen Prefontaine](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:18:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Eileen Prefontaine
Hopkinton, MA 01748

From: [Anne O'Connor](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:13:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Anne O'Connor
Williamstown, MA 01267

From: [Alan Papszun](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:11:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alan Papszun
Stockbridge, MA 01262

From: [Carolyn Cooney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:08:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carolyn Cooney
Milford, MA 01757

From: [Leonard Rubin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:06:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Leonard Rubin
South Hamilton, MA 01982

From: [Theodore Curtin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 5:02:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Theodore Curtin
Plymouth, MA 02360

From: [Ann Cohen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:57:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ann Cohen
Auburn, MA 01501

From: [Deborah Leopold](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:50:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deborah Leopold
Holyoke, MA 01040

From: [David Mickelsen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:48:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

David Mickelsen
Waltham, MA 02453

From: [Barb E](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:42:23 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Barb E
Easthampton, MA 01027

From: [Joseph Kelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:39:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joseph Kelly
West Roxbury, MA 02132

From: [Linda Kelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:35:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Linda Kelly
West Roxbury, MA 02132

From: [Susan McGraw-Keber](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:30:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan McGraw-Keber
East Hampton, NY 11937

From: [Kate Goodale](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:28:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kate Goodale
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [John Cox](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:26:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John Cox
Natick, MA 01760

From: [Stefanie Gould](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:23:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stefanie Gould
, 01774

From: [Sherry Weiland](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:20:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sherry Weiland
Hudson, MA 01749

From: [Maggi Brown](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:17:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Maggi Brown
North Weymouth, MA 02191

From: [Eric Fournier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:13:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Eric Fournier
Watertown, MA 02472

From: [Sally Maher](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:08:38 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sally Maher
Scituate, MA 02066

From: [Cary Eggerling](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 4:06:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Cary Eggerling
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [priscilla smith](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 11:02:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

priscilla smith
Brookline, MA 02446

From: [John Grosjean](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:59:15 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John Grosjean
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Nokplim Wozufia](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:56:44 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nokplim Wozufia
Somerville, MA 02145

From: [Leslie Lowe](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:37:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Leslie Lowe
Sudbury, MA 01776

From: [Christine Lazar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:32:55 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Christine Lazar
Upton, MA 01568

From: [Gina Dadomo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:29:45 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gina Dadomo
Rehoboth, MA 02769

From: [Susan Mackle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:25:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Mackle
Great Barrington, MA 01230

From: [Marjory Trott](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:22:29 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Marjory Trott
Nantucket, MA 02554

From: [Sara Brydges](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:17:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sara Brydges
, 017424917

From: [John Cevasco](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:11:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

John Cevasco
Northfield, MA 01360

From: [Harriet Forman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:07:31 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Harriet Forman
Northbridge, MA 01534

From: [Diane Sacchetti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:02:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diane Sacchetti
Prides Crossing, MA 01965

From: [Dennis Vieira](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 10:00:13 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Dennis Vieira
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

From: [Colton Dwyer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:56:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Colton Dwyer
Boston, MA 02114

From: [Susan Erony](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:54:45 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Erony
Gloucester, MA 01930

From: [Jeanine Mindrum](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:50:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jeanine Mindrum
Westborough, MA 01581

From: [Christina Sarney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:44:44 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Christina Sarney
Kingston, MA 02364

From: [Catherine Sarney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:42:16 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Catherine Sarney
Kingston, MA 02364

From: [Jake Markman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:39:57 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jake Markman
Watchung, NJ 07069

From: [Gabby Finocchio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:36:40 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gabby Finocchio
Boston, MA 02118

From: [Phyllis Schmidt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:32:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Phyllis Schmidt
, 01852-1222

From: [Stacey Monahan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:26:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stacey Monahan
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Colin Heffron](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:24:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Colin Heffron
New York, NY 10014

From: [Richard Stafford](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:18:57 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Richard Stafford
Salem, MA 01970

From: [Janis Higgins](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:13:24 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Janis Higgins
Medford, MA 02155

From: [MARIA FALCON](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:09:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

MARIA FALCON
Somerville, MA 02145

From: [Bryan Bonnett](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:06:19 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Bryan Bonnett
Groton, MA 01450

From: [Joan Snowdon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 9:03:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joan Snowdon
Leverett, MA 01054

From: [Andrea Wells](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:58:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Andrea Wells
, 02145-1458

From: [Kristin Thorn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:55:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kristin Thorn
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Linda Frisone](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:52:25 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Linda Frisone
Santa Fe, NM 87501

From: [JOAN STOCKMAN](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:49:03 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

JOAN STOCKMAN
Nantucket, MA 02554

From: [Gaia Cole](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Sunday, December 6, 2020 8:46:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gaia Cole
Brookline, MA 02446

From: [Nikki Steele](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:40:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nikki Steele
San Diego, CA 92109

From: [Nile Drochak](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:35:45 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nile Drochak
Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120

From: [Lucas Tucker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:30:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lucas Tucker
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Amanda Cox](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:26:35 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amanda Cox
Belmont, MA 02478

From: [Geva Shinar](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:24:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Geva Shinar
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Jake Shab](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:18:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jake Shab
Pacifica, CA 94044

From: [Elizabeth Marshall](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:15:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Marshall
Clifton, VA 20124

From: [Arun Venugopal](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:09:37 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Arun Venugopal
Chelmsford, MA 01824

From: [Julia Friedberg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:04:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julia Friedberg
Somerville, MA 02144

From: [Antonio Gillespie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 10:02:10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Antonio Gillespie
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

From: [Michael Kozuch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:56:39 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michael Kozuch
Boston, MA 02127

From: [Jennifer Koopmans](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:51:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Koopmans
West Barnstable, MA 02668

From: [Luxshmi Sivalogan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:48:56 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Luxshmi Sivalogan
Dedham, MA 02026

From: [Oona Metz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:44:24 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Oona Metz
Arlington, MA 02474

From: [Dene Crystal](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:39:32 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Dene Crystal
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

From: [Erin Sharaf](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:35:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Erin Sharaf
Concord, MA 01742

From: [Erin Fitzgerald](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:32:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Erin Fitzgerald
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Otis Burns](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:28:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Otis Burns
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

From: [Cathy Edwards](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:26:05 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Cathy Edwards
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Barbara Bradley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:22:16 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Barbara Bradley
Brewster, MA 02631

From: [Mary Lynch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:16:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mary Lynch
Boston, MA 02113

From: [Patrick Altieri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:10:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Patrick Altieri
Kansas City, MO 64111

From: [Jennifer Williams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:08:45 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Williams
Huntsville, AL 35803

From: [Joyce Darch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:06:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joyce Darch
Deltona, FL 32725

From: [Mac Lynch](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:03:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mac Lynch
Providence, RI 02906

From: [Tim Nash](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 9:00:10 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tim Nash
Orlando, FL 32804

From: [Kathy Marini](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 8:54:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kathy Marini
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

From: [Beth Arguin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 8:50:44 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Beth Arguin
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

From: [Kelly Duarte](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 8:48:15 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kelly Duarte
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

From: [Alanna Kelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:55:04 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alanna Kelly
West Roxbury, MA 02132

From: [Judith Roberts](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:51:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Judith Roberts
Belchertown, MA 01007

From: [Nichole Cirillo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:49:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nichole Cirillo
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [keith drucker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:46:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

keith drucker
Boston, MA 02109

From: [Nick Marshall](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:43:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nick Marshall
Clifton, VA 20124

From: [Michael Lucas](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:41:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michael Lucas
Sterling, VA 20165

From: [Caley Vahedi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:35:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Caley Vahedi
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Justin Shim](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:33:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Justin Shim
Herndon, VA 20171

From: [Lynda Tocci](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 12:32:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Okay folks. Massachusetts is the home of innovation. The technology for ropeless gear already exists and is in use. Please address this in your regulations to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

Whales are dying and while closures are helpful we can't keep doing the same thing and expect a different result.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lynda Tocci
Somerville, MA 02145

From: [marci.cemenska](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 6:11:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale. I don't think that you want NARW to go extinct due to your lack of effort - that would be very sad.

Thank you.

marci.cemenska
Lexington, MA 02421

From: [Alanna Kelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 1:11:30 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alanna Kelly
West Roxbury, MA 02132

From: [Sean Dillmeier](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Monday, December 7, 2020 12:21:52 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sean Dillmeier
Garden City, NY 11530

From: [Mark Begley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Submitting comment on right whale regulations
Date: Saturday, November 14, 2020 9:53:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Director McKiernan,

I am writing to express my support for all proposed regulations outlined in the recent email regarding increased protections for right whales. The proposed changes are reasonable and grounded in science and crucial for protecting this highly endangered species.

Sincerely,
Mark Begley

From: [whinny3](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: To: Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Date: Saturday, December 5, 2020 10:04:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Saturday, December 5, 2020

To: Director McKiernan
Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

North Atlantic Right Whales are rapidly approaching extinction. These sentient mammals tragically now number only in the mid 300's. One major cause of their demise is entanglement in the ropes that connect buoys on the surface of the ocean to their corresponding lobster and crab traps on the ocean floor. In fact 85% of Right Whales bear the scars of entanglement by these thick ropes. A remedy for this is to replace this type of trap with Ropeless fishing traps. These utilize GPS technology for location and identification. The other remedy would be to close the waters to lobster fishing, but this would harm the fishermen and therefore is not the preferred choice.

Beverly Greenwold, M.D.
Phone: 617-448-7453

Sent from my Galaxy Tab A

From: [Drucker, Kenneth](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whale Survival
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:52:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to let you know how concerned we are about the decline in the Right Whale population. One of the best things that can be done is to stop the entanglements of Right Whales with fishing/lobster gear. Thank you for reading.

Kenneth M. Drucker-Attleboro, MA.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Francine Traniello](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:04:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Francine Traniello
Middleboro, MA 02346

From: [Kathleen Vadnais](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:59:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kathleen Vadnais
Chicopee, MA 01020

From: [Joseph Bigler](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:54:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Joseph Bigler
Marysville, OH 43040

From: [Brenda Mueller-Lamore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:52:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brenda Mueller-Lamore
Belchertown, MA 01007

From: [Shelby Gale](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:40:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Shelby Gale
West Palm Beach, FL 33407

From: [Alexander Gray](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 2:37:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alexander Gray
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

From: [Carol Craig](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 1:04:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carol Craig
Harwich Port, MA 02646

From: [Annie Laurie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 1:02:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Annie Laurie
Dracut, MA 01826

From: [Rebecca Bootka](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:56:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rebecca Bootka
Naples, FL 34106

From: [Sheryle Tamagini](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:54:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sheryle Tamagini
South Dartmouth, MA 02748

From: [Diane Petrillo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:52:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diane Petrillo
Hamden, CT 06518

From: [Rob Conrad](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:48:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rob Conrad
Long Beach, CA 90805

From: [Jan Makkinje](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:46:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jan Makkinje
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Kristin Gray](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:42:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kristin Gray
Arlington, MA 02476

From: [Eileen Awsiukiewicz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:38:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Eileen Awsiukiewicz
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

From: [Sarah Weiss](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:36:07 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sarah Weiss
Essex Junction, VT 05452

From: [Alice Moore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:32:12 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alice Moore
Rindge, NH 03461

From: [Suzanne Smith](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:27:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Suzanne Smith
Portsmouth, RI 02871

From: [jussi gamache](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:22:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

jussi gamache
, 02144-2619

From: [Brenda Agnew](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:19:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brenda Agnew
Haverhill, MA 01832

From: [Stephen Drabkin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:17:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stephen Drabkin
Nantucket, MA 02554

From: [Olivia Guerra](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:11:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Olivia Guerra
Yarmouth Port, MA 02675

From: [Gabriel Kornbluh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:09:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gabriel Kornbluh
Washington, DC 20009

From: [Robert Strelke](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:05:16 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robert Strelke
North Easton, MA 02356

From: [Rain Harbison](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:02:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rain Harbison
Nantucket, MA 02554

From: [Deborah Luciano](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 12:00:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deborah Luciano
Stoneham, MA 02180

From: [Jay Munsey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:55:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jay Munsey
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

From: [David Dragon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:48:09 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

David Dragon
Gardner, MA 01440

From: [Elektra Zolnoski](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:42:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Elektra Zolnoski
East Hardwick, VT 05836

From: [Scott Leonard](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:39:53 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Scott Leonard
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

From: [Beth Sullivan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:36:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Beth Sullivan
Hingham, MA 02043

From: [Claire Goldthwaite](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:32:40 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Claire Goldthwaite
Plymouth, MA 02360

From: [Katelyn Sullivan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:28:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Katelyn Sullivan
Dorchester Center, MA 02124

From: [Dakota Fenn](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:24:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Dakota Fenn
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Kevin Sullivan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 11:21:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kevin Sullivan
Plymouth, MA 02360

From: [Bethany Aiudi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:59:41 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Bethany Aiudi
Dunnellon, FL 34434

From: [Michael Caputo](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:57:00 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michael Caputo
Greenville, RI 02828

From: [Michael Haskell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:51:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michael Haskell
Scarborough, ME 04074

From: [Maria Donnell](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:48:40 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Maria Donnell
, 04106-5723

From: [Julie Leavitt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:46:12 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julie Leavitt
Newton, MA 02464

From: [Alexander Dugan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:41:32 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alexander Dugan
Northborough, MA 01532

From: [Jane Hersey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:38:55 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jane Hersey
Falmouth, ME 04105

From: [Gary Wolf Ardito](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:33:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gary Wolf Ardito
Branford, CT 06405

From: [lenore sivulich](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:28:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

lenore sivulich
New Gloucester, ME 04260

From: [Shelley Hartz](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:25:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Shelley Hartz
Littleton, MA 01460

From: [Kim Wright](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:20:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kim Wright
, 01821-3114

From: [Tony and Cindy Guarnieri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:15:52 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tony and Cindy Guarnieri
, 06905-2010

From: [Michelle Harrington](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:12:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Michelle Harrington
Harmony, ME 04942

From: [Carole Smudin](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:09:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carole Smudin
Bridgewater, MA 02324

From: [Robin Covino](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:07:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Robin Covino
Milford, CT 06460

From: [katie lane](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:03:39 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

katie lane
Somerville, MA 02145

From: [Beth Walters](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:00:28 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Beth Walters
Darien, GA 31305

From: [Carolyn OConnor](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:57:54 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Carolyn OConnor
Eastham, MA 02642

From: [Kathleen Wiley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:55:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kathleen Wiley
Norwell, MA 2061

From: [James de Crescentis](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:53:25 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

James de Crescentis
Boston, MA 02118

From: [Sarah McCormack](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:49:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sarah McCormack
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

From: [Mark Bordieri](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:44:36 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Mark Bordieri
Foxboro, MA 02035

From: [Andrea Spence](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:41:32 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Andrea Spence
Orleans, MA 2653

From: [robin.nadel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:37:47 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

robin nadel
Branford, CT 06405

From: [Lozz Starseed](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:10:35 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lozz Starseed
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Brian Galvez](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: public comment of 1,700-lb Breaking Strength Contrivance (322 CMR 12.02 and 12.06)
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:57:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I wanted to comment on the above proposed breaking strength rule. As per the quoted text below, I simply wanted to point out the typo (or what I believe to be) on the second mention of 1,700. The second sentence below states seventeen thousand pound - just wanted to make sure that the rule is not enacted with that value.

"DMF is proposing that all vertical buoy lines break when exposed to 1,700 pounds of pressure. This may be accommodated by fishing buoy lines with a **1.7000** pound breaking strength or by rigging the buoy line with a contrivance or multiple contrivances that allows for it to break at that pressure."

Regards,

--

Brian Galvez
briangalvez427@gmail.com
619-694-9454

From: [Sharon Morgan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:35:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sharon Morgan
Dedham, MA 02026

From: [Claire Coen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:33:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Claire Coen
Marblehead, MA 01945

From: [Tim Fitzgerald](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:28:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tim Fitzgerald
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Morgan Lazenby](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:23:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Morgan Lazenby
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [Deirdre Williams](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:18:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deirdre Williams
Cohasset, MA 02025

From: [Ryan Schaefer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:15:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ryan Schaefer
Westwood, MA 02090

From: [Deborah Mauger](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:13:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deborah Mauger
Wellfleet, MA 2667

From: [Lindsay Keith](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:08:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lindsay Keith
West Bridgewater, MA 02379

From: [kim zhou](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:03:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

kim zhou
Mc Lean, VA 22101

From: [Ranait Denihan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:58:44 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ranait Denihan
Manhasset, NY 11030

From: [Caroline Hoyt](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:54:04 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Caroline Hoyt
Locust Valley, NY 11560

From: [Helene Bank](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:51:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Helene Bank
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: [Jean Conway](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:46:28 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jean Conway
Greenfield, MA 01301

From: [Sadhana Mandal](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:43:41 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Sadhana Mandal
Wellesley, MA 02482

From: [Susan Henderson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:41:07 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Henderson
Manchester, MA 01944

From: [Molly Warner](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:38:37 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Molly Warner
Dorchester Center, MA 02124

From: [Brock Cordeiro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:36:06 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brock Cordeiro
Dartmouth, MA 02748

From: [Julia Andrus](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:30:08 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julia Andrus
Northampton, MA 01062

From: [Karen Partridge](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:26:38 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Karen Partridge
Needham, MA 02492

From: [Linda Como](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:23:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Linda Como
Quincy, MA 02169

From: [Lozz Starseed](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:17:51 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lozz Starseed
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Shelagh Dean](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:15:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Shelagh Dean
Tewksbury, MA 01876

From: [Tim DeLouchrey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:12:20 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tim DeLouchrey
Westford, MA 01886

From: [Keri Sullivan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:08:50 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Keri Sullivan
Allston, MA 02134

From: [Karun Kannan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:04:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Karun Kannan
Westford, MA 01886

From: [Samantha Miller](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 11:01:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Samantha Miller
Allston, MA 02134

From: [Marie McGourty](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:58:58 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Marie McGourty
Westford, MA 01886

From: [David Sawyer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:56:33 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

David Sawyer
Cambridge, MA 02141

From: [Kristin Terry](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:52:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kristin Terry
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Kai Long](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:47:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kai Long
Fairfield, CT 06824

From: [Tessa McIntosh](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:44:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tessa McIntosh
Brighton, MA 02135

From: [Liz Korycansky](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:41:42 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Liz Korycansky
Allston, MA 02134

From: [Chris Delouchrey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:38:11 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Chris Delouchrey
Westford, MA 01886

From: [Julie Bonette](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:33:46 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Julie Bonette
Hanover, NH 03755

From: [Kathleen Arruda](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:28:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kathleen Arruda
Westport, MA 02790

From: [Gerri Petersen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:23:58 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gerri Petersen
, S7J 3E6

From: [Natalie Czelusniak](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:21:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Natalie Czelusniak
Allston, MA 02134

From: [Pamela Maguire](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:16:23 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Pamela Maguire
Kingston, MA 02364

From: [Stephen Billings](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:12:17 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stephen Billings
Acton, MA 01720

From: [Kristen Elmes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:09:57 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kristen Elmes
Ashfield, MA 01330

From: [Kate Amel](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:07:27 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kate Amel
Roslindale, MA 2131

From: [alysa m](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:04:53 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

alysa m
, poo

From: [Hayes Oconnor](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:00:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Hayes Oconnor
Arlington, VA 22204

From: [Murali Menon](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:54:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Murali Menon
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Lisa DeLouchrey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:49:29 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lisa DeLouchrey
Westford, MA 01886

From: [Ellie Gret](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:44:28 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ellie Gret
New York, NY 10008

From: [Kaveesh Pathak](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:41:58 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Kaveesh Pathak
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Holly Ryan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:39:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Holly Ryan
Newton Center, MA 02459

From: [Lauren Ramos](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:33:58 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lauren Ramos
Auburn, MA 01501

From: [Susanna Cerulli](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:30:55 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susanna Cerulli
Westwood, MA 2090

From: [Owen Monahan](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:26:52 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Owen Monahan
, 2099

From: [Tim Van Bloem](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:24:22 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tim Van Bloem
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Simra Abedi](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:21:34 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Simra Abedi
Plano, TX 75093

From: [Abigail Cutrumbes](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:18:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Abigail Cutrumbes
Dracut, MA 01826

From: [Emme Hauck](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:13:02 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Emme Hauck
South Lee, MA 01260

From: [Caroline Pinsky](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:09:49 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Caroline Pinsky
Sherborn, MA 01770

From: [Jim Leahy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:07:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jim Leahy
Boston, MA 2109

From: [Lee Brami](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:01:30 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Lee Brami
Lexington, MA 02420

From: [Aurora Grabill](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:58:36 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Aurora Grabill
Framingham, MA 01701

From: [Alfred Mancini](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:53:52 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alfred Mancini
Tewksbury, MA 01876

From: [Samantha Wiseman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:48:18 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Samantha Wiseman
Las Vegas, NV 89130

From: [ShelbySkye Pace](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:45:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

ShelbySkye Pace
Delaware, AR 72835

From: [Brandy McCarthy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:45:21 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brandy McCarthy
Southampton, MA 01073

From: [Dennis Rogers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:40:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Dennis Rogers
Hubbardston, MA 01452

From: [Katrin Winterer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:36:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Katrin Winterer
Winchester, MA 01890

From: [Amy Murphy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:33:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Amy Murphy
Ormond Beach, FL 32176

From: [Molly Martony](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:27:52 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Molly Martony
Mystic, CT 06355

From: [Terry Rogers](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:25:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Terry Rogers
, 03079-2711

From: [Laura Wyeth](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:21:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Laura Wyeth
Willimantic, CT 06226

From: [April Kelley](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:18:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

April Kelley
Derby, CT 06418

From: [LINDA RIENDEAU](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:13:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

LINDA RIENDEAU
Coventry, RI 02816

From: [Jeanie Cook](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:07:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jeanie Cook
Madison, CT 06443

From: [Danielle Soghoian](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:05:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Danielle Soghoian
Mystic, CT 06355

From: [Janine Moore](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:00:15 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Janine Moore
Waterville, ME 04901

From: [frances drescher](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:58:05 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

frances drescher
Wallingford, CT 06492

From: [Debra DeFurio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:52:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Debra DeFurio
Hebron, CT 06248

From: [Jeanette Herrington](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:47:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jeanette Herrington
Townsend, GA 31331

From: [Alice Carter](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:44:50 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Alice Carter
Cambridge, MA 2138

From: [kristin mortimer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:40:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

kristin mortimer
Cambridge, MA 02138

From: [Yuen Li](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:36:47 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Yuen Li
Westford, MA 01886

From: [Susan Worboys](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:31:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Susan Worboys
Niantic, CT 06357

From: [Tom Murtha](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:25:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Tom Murtha
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Nicole Mola](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:23:02 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nicole Mola
Plymouth, MA 02360

From: [Gayle Sirpenski](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:18:51 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Gayle Sirpenski
Mystic, CT 06355

From: [David Mickelsen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:13:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

David Mickelsen
Waltham, MA 02453

From: [Ruth Olschewske](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:09:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ruth Olschewske
Alton, NY 14413

From: [Oz diCampanetti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:04:22 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Oz diCampanetti
Worcester, MA 01605

From: [lauren miller-donnelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:01:58 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

lauren miller-donnelly
Westport, MA 02790

From: [Rebecca Earp](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 6:59:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rebecca Earp
Preston, CT 06365

From: [Pamela Oerth](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 6:54:39 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Pamela Oerth
Georgetown, MA 01833

From: [Caroline Genther](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 6:50:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Caroline Genther
Madison, CT 06443

From: [Randi Byron](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 6:46:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Randi Byron
Avon, CT 06001

From: [Linda Cohen](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 6:44:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Linda Cohen
West Tisbury, MA 02575

From: [Diego Moreno](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:40:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diego Moreno
Brighton, MA 02135

From: [WILLIAM G LACH](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: trap regulations
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:08:37 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Dan, thanks for taking my question about line diameter. i would like to suggest keeping the line diameter for recreational traps at 3/8 the same as the proposal for the commercial traps. For inshore, recreational traps and commercial traps are side by side (commercial traps as singles). If the proposals are to limit whale entanglements I think that both types of trap lines should be the same. Smaller line diameters could also result in more ghost traps as these line could be more prone to breakoffs. I would also suggest moving the open season for recreational fishing to May 15th-Sept 15th. With global warming we have seen many more fall storms and since most recreational fisherman are closer to shore moving the date to Sept 15th might reduce the amount of traps lost to such storms in the fall thus reducing ghost traps.

Thanks for your time,
Bill Lach

From: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
To: [Gilvarg, Craig \(EEA\)](#)
Cc: [Wall, Troy \(EEA\)](#)
Subject: RE: Cabinet slide
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 3:43:00 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

I just sent it back to Dan. You guys should have it shortly.

From: Gilvarg, Craig (EEA) <Craig.Gilvarg@mass.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Silva, Jared (FWE) <jared.silva@mass.gov>
Cc: Wall, Troy (EEA) <Troy.Wall2@mass.gov>
Subject: Cabinet slide

Hi Jared,

Dan told me you're working on a slide with some information on the right whale regs. Just checking in on the status of that – thanks very much for your help.

Best,
Craig

Craig Gilvarg

Press Secretary

Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114

Office: 617-626-1126 / Mobile: 617-372-6704



From: [Silva, Jared \(FWE\)](#)
To: [McKiernan, Dan \(FWE\)](#)
Cc: [Glenn, Robert \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: RE: Cabinet Slides
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 3:42:00 PM
Attachments: [Cabinet Slide DMF Protected Species.pptx](#)

From: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:58 PM
To: Glenn, Robert (FWE) <robert.glenn@mass.gov>; Silva, Jared (FWE) <jared.silva@mass.gov>
Subject: FW: Cabinet Slides

I could use some help with this

From: Wall, Troy (EEA) <Troy.Wall2@mass.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:57 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Cc: Greco, Bob (FWE) <bob.greco@mass.gov>; Gilvarg, Craig (EEA) <Craig.Gilvarg@mass.gov>
Subject: RE: Cabinet Slides

Hi Dan,

Just checking in on this. Let me know if I can help.

Thanks!
Troy

From: Wall, Troy (EEA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 3:12 PM
To: McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>
Cc: Greco, Bob (FWE) <bob.greco@mass.gov>; Gilvarg, Craig (EEA) <Craig.Gilvarg@mass.gov>
Subject: RE: Cabinet Slides

Hi Dan,

Could we get a slide that recaps the public hearings on the new lobster fishing / right whale regs and next steps?

Thanks!
Troy

From: Wall, Troy (EEA)
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 11:56 AM
To: Ferrarese, Brian (DEP) <Brian.Ferrarese@mass.gov>; Cooper, Stephanie (DEP)

<stephanie.cooper@mass.gov>; Connelly, Bridget (DCR) <bridget.connelly@mass.gov>; Ryan, Jacqueline (DCR) <jacqueline.ryan@mass.gov>; Ridlen, Jessica (ENE) <Jessica.Ridlen2@mass.gov>; Greco, Bob (FWE) <bob.greco@mass.gov>; Bouchard, Alisha (AGR) <alisha.bouchard@mass.gov>; Randle, Ashley (AGR) <Ashley.Randle@mass.gov>; Engler, Lisa Berry (EEA) <lisa.engler@mass.gov>; Marcelonis, Megan (EEA) <megan.marcelonis@mass.gov>; Rao, Vandana (EEA) <vandana.rao@mass.gov>; McKiernan, Dan (FWE) <dan.mckiernan@mass.gov>; Truschelli, Joseph M (DPU) <Joseph.M.Truschelli@mass.gov>; Zaltman, Alexandra (DPU) <Alexandra.Zaltman@mass.gov>; Connors, Nick (DCR) <Nick.Connors@mass.gov>
Cc: Gilvarg, Craig (EEA) <Craig.Gilvarg@mass.gov>; Healy, Sarah (EEA) <sarah.healy@mass.gov>
Subject: Cabinet Slides

Hi everyone,

I'm just sending a reminder about this week's cabinet book for the Secretary. I've attached the template for the slides, and here are the items for weekly updates:

- Drought
- DCR Parks Plan Update
- DCR/DFG Blue Hills Deer Hunt Slide (final results and their comparison to previous years)

I'll let you all know individually if there are additional requests for slides, as well. Please have slides to me by noon on Thursday.

Thanks,
Troy

From: [Maya Sze](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whale Comment
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 2:47:59 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.



Dear Director McKiernan,

My name is Maya Sze, and I am a student at Tufts University and an Oceans Intern with Environment Massachusetts. I have loved the ocean for as long as I can remember. One of my most powerful memories was during my childhood, when my family went on a whale watch. As I scanned the horizon, a large tail lifted above the waves just yards from our boat. It was my first time seeing a whale in its natural habitat, and it's a sight I'll never forget. Whenever I reflect on why I love the ocean, that majestic image always comes to mind.

One of my favorite whale species is the North Atlantic Right Whale. It swims right off the coast where I live, and it never ceases to amaze me the strong bonds mothers form with their calves. Mothers use unique whispering tones to communicate with calves, facilitating this incredible bond.

It was incredibly saddening to learn that scientists recently estimated 366 left, which means we can only afford about one non-natural right whale death per year to avoid extinction. Tragically, in the past three years alone, humans were responsible for some 32 deaths, with vessel strikes and fishing gear entanglements ranking as top causes.

To prevent deaths like these and to save this amazing species, we need bold protective policy. Your proposed rule is a big step in the right direction. In particular, I support the expansion of closures to vertical line fishing throughout all Massachusetts waters from Feb. 1 – Apr. 30. With no vertical line in the water during these times, the risk of right whale entanglement is very much reduced.

In your final rule, I advocate for one revision. The Division of Marine Fisheries should include language that implements a pathway for the development and implementation of ropeless fishing gear. The draft regulations, which consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots, would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles. I'd like to finish by thanking the Division of Marine Fisheries for being a leader in saving right whales. I think that, if the DMF includes language about

ropeless fishing gear, these rules are a big step toward giving this special species a fighting chance.

We are on the brink of losing the North Atlantic right whale forever; before it's too late, we must act now by taking steps to prevent more right whale entanglements. I once again thank you for being a leader on this issue, ask you to make that revision, and thank you for allowing me to comment.

Best,

Maya Sze

msze@environmentamerica.org

From: [david walker](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Right Whales
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 5:22:32 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello DMF,

Please believe the science. Studies have shown ropeless gear is ~95% effective in preventing entanglements. Science/technology is one of the hallmarks that makes the United States the greatest country in the world.

We have learned a terrible lesson when we ignore science with COVID. Please do not make the same mistake with the right whales who cannot advocate for themselves.

Thank you,
David Walker

Sent from my iPhone

From: [LA Dev](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Ropeless gear
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:16:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, [ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate](#). While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

From: [L Dana](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Ropeless gear
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 3:48:25 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I think it is very important for you to consider ropeless gear as a necessity to preserve our right whale population. I hope that you consider supporting this as the way forward, especially with MA becoming a hotter spot for right whale

Dana
Worcester, MA

From: [Emily Schipper](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Ropeless gear
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 7:18:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening,

I write to urge you to make the change to ropeless gear. This will have a huge impact. Are the difficulties and disruptions in making this change worth the extinction of an entire species of whale?

Best,
Emily Vetter

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jo-Ann Ferreira](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save endangered right whales
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 8:07:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Ropeless gear has a proven effect rate of 98.4% and can help prevent right whale entanglements. Please save these beautiful right whales from extinction. Right whales have been entangled at least once in their lifetime. Please ban rope fishing gear .

Concerned citizen,

Jo-Ann Ferreira

From: [Raina D'Orazio](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:27:33 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Raina D'Orazio
West Newbury, MA 01985

From: [Jessica Whitney](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:21:42 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jessica Whitney
Milford, CT 06461

From: [Allison Tuttle](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:19:11 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Allison Tuttle
Mystic, CT 06355

From: [Natalie Hill](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:16:27 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Natalie Hill
Boston, MA 02115

From: [Aimee Sugrue](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:11:36 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Aimee Sugrue
Watertown, MA 02472

From: [Jennifer Rock](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:05:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Rock
Wyoming, RI 02898

From: [Christine Barth](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:01:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Christine Barth
Stonington, CT 06378

From: [Martha Lockett](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 3:59:25 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Martha Lockett
Cambridge, MA 02140

From: [Brock Cordeiro](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:40:24 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Brock Cordeiro
Dartmouth, MA 02748

From: [Peg Herlihy](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:37:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Peg Herlihy
Newburyport, MA 01950

From: [Bob Bousquet](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:32:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Bob Bousquet
Bryantville, MA 02327

From: [Anca Vlasopolos](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:29:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Anca Vlasopolos
Centerville, MA 02632

From: [Elana Katz rose](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:25:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Elana Katz rose
Sharon, MA 02067

From: [Andrea Ferguson](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:22:43 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Andrea Ferguson
Granby, MA 01033

From: [Diane Toomey](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:20:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Diane Toomey
Belmont, MA 02478

From: [Stephen Donnelly](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:16:21 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Stephen Donnelly
Easthampton, MA 01027

From: [Karen Vayda](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:11:48 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Karen Vayda
Southampton, MA 01073

From: [Deborah Spencer](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:07:25 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Deborah Spencer
Billerica, MA 01821

From: [Heather Pighetti](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:04:55 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Heather Pighetti
Westfield, MA 01085

From: [Jennifer Heilig](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 1:02:10 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Jennifer Heilig
Boston, MA 02127

From: [ron stillman](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:59:44 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

ron stillman
West Springfield, MA 1089

From: [Ben Wishnie-Edwards](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:57:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Ben Wishnie-Edwards
Boston, MA 2127

From: [Annie Laurie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:52:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Annie Laurie
Dracut, MA 01826

From: [Rachelle Jeanty](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:50:19 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Rachelle Jeanty
Randolph, MA 02368

From: [Coleman Hirschberg](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:46:28 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Coleman Hirschberg
Somerville, MA 02145

From: [Daniela Michanie](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 12:43:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed draft regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are ship strikes and entanglements: no right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million miles of vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled twice or more. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining. Right whales could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Daniela Michanie
Waltham, MA 02453

From: [Nicole Dupree](#)
To: [Fish, Marine \(FWE\)](#)
Subject: Save the Right Whale
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 4:32:09 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed regulations created to reduce entanglement risks posed to North Atlantic right whales.

The primary causes of death for right whales are vessel strikes and entanglements: no adult or juvenile right whale has died of natural causes in the past 17 years. The East Coast has over one million vertical lines that right whales must navigate through in order to feed, including in our state waters. These ropes pose a direct risk to our state marine mammal, the North Atlantic right whale.

Over 85% of right whales have been entangled at least once, and more than half of the population has been entangled at least twice. The population, which is estimated at 366, is rapidly declining and could be extinct within our lifetime.

Current enforced regulations require vertical buoy rope to be used when harvesting lobster. This must be revised entirely, in order for ropeless fishing to become legal in Massachusetts.

DMF must implement a pathway for permitting ropeless gear, as the draft regulations that consider using 1700 lb. breakable rope for fishing lines attached to trap pots would still pose a threat to right whale calves and juveniles.

Ropeless gear has been used all over the world by fishermen in Australia, United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada and on the West Coast. During a data analysis of over 1,000 deployments of various models, ropeless fishing gear had a 98.4 percent success rate. While federal and state regulators have been studying ropeless gear to no avail for the past twenty years, multiple companies have worked with fishermen to manufacture gear that can be used by fishermen to fish today.

DMF must consider ropeless gear to save North Atlantic right whales. Ropeless gear is the technology of the future and the only long-term solution to reduce entanglements while keeping fishermen on the water. Please implement measures that incorporate ropeless gear pilot programs in order to save the right whale.

Thank you.

Nicole Dupree
Taunton, MA 02780