



**Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Technical Report TR-31**

Technical Report

2005 Massachusetts Lobster Fishery Statistics

M. J. Dean, S. R. Reed, and T. B. Hoopes

**Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
Department of Fish and Game
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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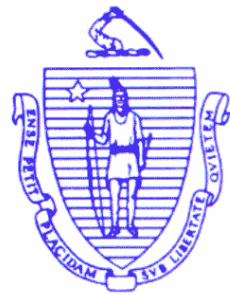
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Introduction

The commercial lobster fishery of Massachusetts is the most economically important fishery conducted within the territorial waters of the Commonwealth. The overall importance of the fishery both in New England and the Mid-Atlantic states has focused the attention of federal, regional and state fishery managers on this species. With the passage of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976, the New England Fisheries Management Council, in cooperation with the Mid-Atlantic Council, developed and implemented a management plan for the entire Atlantic Coast lobster fishery. Management of this fishery was transferred to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) in 1997. Since its first implementation, the Interstate Management Plan for Atlantic Coast Lobster (FMP) has been modified several times. The most current revision at the time these data were collected was Addendum VII (November 2005).

The Commission's management plan introduced area management along the coast, with seven separate Lobster Conservation Management Areas (LCMAs) from Maine to Maryland. Area designations were based primarily on the percent contribution from different stock components, but the manner in which the fisheries have been prosecuted were also taken into consideration. Each area has been designated a Lobster Conservation Management Team (LCMT) composed of fishermen whose

task it is to develop management recommendations that achieve the objectives of the plan. The Massachusetts lobster fishery occurs in four of these LCMAs: 1, 2, 3 and OC (Figure 1).

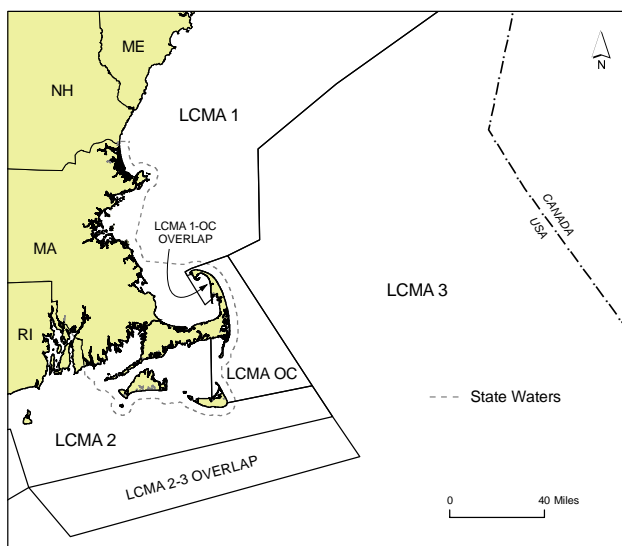
Information provided by a peer-reviewed stock assessment in 2000 indicated a need for an increase in egg production across all Lobster Management Areas. To meet this requirement, ASMFC created a schedule of minimum gauge size increases through Addendum III to Amendment 3 of the FMP. At the end of 2005, the minimum gauge size was $3\frac{1}{4}$ " for LCMA 1, $3\frac{3}{8}$ " for LCMA 2, and $3\frac{13}{32}$ " for LCMAs 3, and Outer Cape (OC). Additional increases of $\frac{1}{32}$ " per year may be required, if necessary, for LCMA 3 until a final minimum size of $3\frac{1}{2}$ " is reached in 2008.

The basis and success of any such management plan is an accurate statistical database. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with funding from the National Marine Fisheries Service, has been collecting annual reports from permitted lobster fishermen since the early 1960's. In the past, these data were used primarily for descriptive and informational purposes, and occasionally for management. With the emphasis on coastwide management, however, these data has helped provide the respective management agencies with the information they need to protect the interests of Massachusetts' lobstermen and ensure a productive fishery in the Commonwealth.

During the mid 1970s, concerns over the ability of the resource to support rapidly expanding effort levels prompted statutory and regulatory measures to limit the number of new commercial lobster permits being issued. The issuance of new Coastal Permits was suspended entirely in 1988. As a result of these measures, the number of permits has declined from an all time high of 1,865 in 1988 to a more manageable 1,428 permits in 2005. In an effort to further control fishing mortality and reduce latent fishing effort, Lobster Effort Control Plans were recently developed for LCMA OC (December 2003) and LCMA 2 (April 2006). Both of these plans assigned individual trap allocations to their respective commercial lobstermen based on their individual fishing histories. The trap limit for LCMA 1 remains at 800.

This report is the thirty-ninth annual publication of data compiled from the catch reports of permitted Massachusetts lobster fishermen. This report does not, however, cover the scope of the Project's exist-

Figure 1. Lobster Conservation Management Areas (LCMAs) for the Massachusetts Commercial Lobster Fishery.



ing database and computational capability. Requests for expanded information, or questions concerning this publication, should be directed to the Division's MIS & Fisheries Statistics Project in Gloucester, MA: (978) 282-0308.

Methods

Chapter 130, Massachusetts General Laws, Section 33, requires all lobstermen to file an annual report of their catch by January 31 for the preceding calendar year. Commercial lobstermen (coastal, offshore and seasonal/student) receive a detailed catch report form specific to their permit type with their renewal application (Appendix B). Recreational fishermen are asked to report on their permit renewal application form the number of lobsters taken during the previous year, hours dived and the maximum number of traps fished. Catch reports are visually screened upon receipt and incomplete or improperly filled out forms are returned. Completed reports are entered into an Oracle database and the original forms are kept on file at the Division's Gloucester office. As the data enters the database, it is validated against a set of QA/QC criteria by the data entry software. In addition, the data is once again reviewed for data entry errors prior to the production of this report.

Fisherman catch reports are the primary source of the data presented in this report. Some data elements, such as permits and transfer information come from the Division's permitting database. Price and data validity information come from the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program's (ACCSP) Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System (SAFIS) dealer reporting database.

Most of the data presented in this publication are broken out either by permit type or by area. Area data is reported according to MA DMF Statistical Reporting Areas (Figure 2), which conform to National Marine Fisheries Service reporting areas. Reporting areas 1 through 14 are considered "Territorial" areas and include all waters under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth. Reporting areas 15 through 25 are considered "Non-Territorial" areas, meaning they lie outside the State Waters. Statistical Reporting Area 26 refers to any area outside of Areas 1 through 25.

In keeping with Division policy, some of the data are masked or combined to protect the confidentiality of the individual submitting the report. Specifically, any grouping of data that represents less than three fishermen is not shown.

Data referring to the number of fishermen, number and value of gear, and number and value of boats are presented by the homeport of the vessel associated with the permit. When the homeport of a vessel is unknown, the primary landing port is used.

Vessel and SCUBA gear values were calculated on the basis of the fishermen's estimate of its present value and the percentage of the time it is in use specifically for lobstering. When fishermen reported the number of lobsters taken, rather than poundage, a conversion factor of 1.46 pounds per lobster was used to calculate poundage figures. This figure is based on information collected by the Division's Coastal Lobster Investigations Project.

Data presented in this publication are based on catch reports actually received as of April 2007. Late reports received beyond this point are not represented here but will be entered in the database and accounted for in future publications.

Results and Discussion

Permits issued and reporting status. The Division of Marine Fisheries issues five types of lobster permits:

Coastal Commercial: Allows the holder to harvest lobster anywhere, most importantly inside territorial waters.

Offshore Commercial: Allows the holder to harvest lobster outside territorial waters only.

Offshore Commercial (Non-trap): Same as Offshore Permit, except the permit holder is restricted to non-trap gear types. This permit type was created for the 2004 fishing year. Prior to 2004, there was only one type of offshore permit, regardless of gear type.

Seasonal Commercial: Allows the holder, if he or she is a student, to harvest lobster anywhere, but with a maximum of 25 traps and only during the months of June - September.

Recreational: Allows the holder to harvest lobster anywhere using SCUBA gear, a maximum of 10 traps, or a combination of both. The catch may not be sold.

A total of 12,918 lobster permits were issued in 2005: 2,063 commercial and 10,855 recreational (Table 1). Of the commercial permits issued, 1,428 were coastal permits, a 2.5 percent decline over the previous year. This represents the 18th consecutive decline since a moratorium on new coastal permits

Figure 2. Map of DMF Statistical Reporting Areas: Areas 1– 14 are Territorial; Areas 15-25 are Non-Territorial

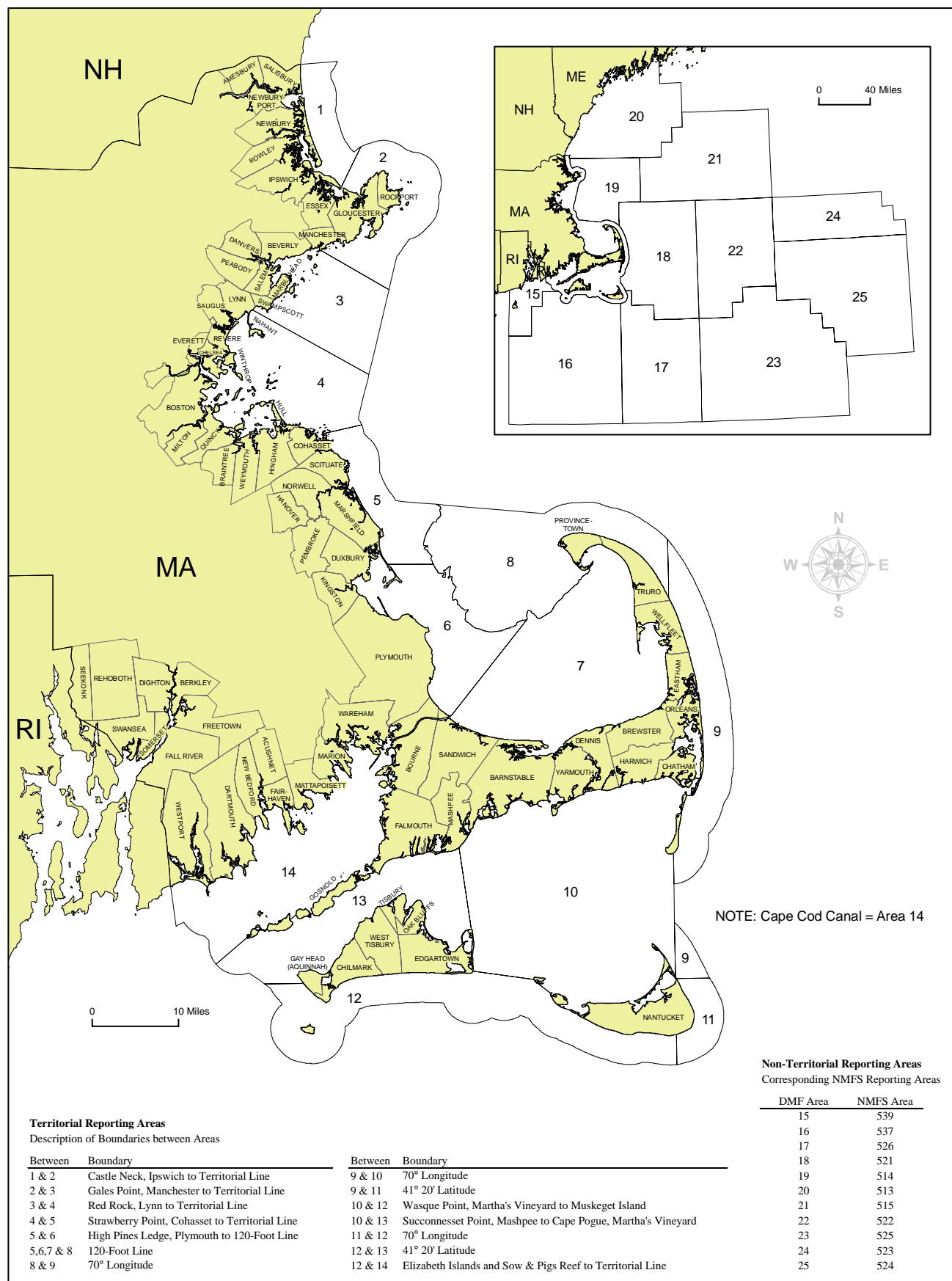


Table 1. Permit information for the Massachusetts lobster fishery, 2001-2005

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Coastal Permits					
Issued	1,538	1,531	1,504	1,464	1,428
Fished	1,098	1,086	1,044	982	942
Did Not Fish	416	422	433	450	449
Not Reporting	24	23	27	32	37
Offshore Permits*					
Issued	530	555	553	346	316
Fished	344	376	381	203	191
Did Not Fish	142	140	142	118	97
Not Reporting	44	39	30	25	28
Offshore Non-Trap Permits*					
Issued				202	226
Fished				129	131
Did Not Fish				54	71
Not Reporting				19	24
Seasonal (Student) Permits					
Issued	96	98	104	100	93
Fished	51	57	55	51	46
Did Not Fish	14	16	15	15	20
Not Reporting	31	25	34	34	27
Recreational Permits					
Issued	11,957	11,954	11,395	11,112	10,855
Fished	6,605	6,279	5,921	5,803	5,728
Did Not Fish	2,538	2,741	2,689	2,497	2,432
Not Reporting	2,814	2,934	2,785	2,812	2,695

* The "Offshore Non-Trap" permit type was created for the 2004 fishing year. In prior years, only one type Offshore permit existed, regardless of gear type.

was declared in 1988. The number of offshore permits issued decreased by 1.1 percent, while the number of seasonal permits decreased by 7 percent.

As of April 2007, 116 permitted commercial lobstermen (5.6 percent) failed to file a 2005 catch report with the Division. Of the 1,947 commercial fishermen who reported, 637 or 32.7 percent claimed they did not fish for lobster in 2005.

Recreational permits issued declined in 2005 by 2.3 percent, the fourth consecutive decrease. Compared to commercial permit holders, substantially more recreational fishermen failed to report at 24.8 percent; However, an annual reporting rate of 75 percent in the recreational fishery is not unusual. Seventy percent of the recreational permit holders that submitted catch reports declared that they fished for lobster in 2005. Of those that reported fishing, 43.7 percent declared using pots, 24.8 percent used dive gear and 31.5 used a combination of the two (Table 2).

Permit fees collected in 2005 totaled \$988,375: \$550,875 for commercial permits and \$437,500 for recreational permits. The cost of Massachusetts lobster permits remained at \$260 for coastal or offshore permits (\$520 for non-residents), \$65 for seasonal permits (\$130 for non-residents) and \$40 for recreational permits (\$60 for non-residents). The last increase in permit fees was in 1989.

Coastal lobster permit transfer. During calendar year 2005, the Division authorized the transfer of 46 coastal permits. 28 of the transfers went to captains who were previously authorized to fish an-

Table 2. Recreational lobster permit information for 2005

Permit Type:	Diver	Diver/Pot	Potman	Total
Issued	3,002	3,399	4,454	10,855
Reporting	2,122	2,636	3,402	8,160
Fished	1,423	1,803	2,502	5,728
Did Not Fish	699	833	900	2,432
Not Reporting	880	763	1,052	2,695

other holder's permit and who had fished that holder's permit for at least twelve months prior to the transfer. Sixteen transfers were allowed within the holder's immediate family (and would have been allowed prior to the new regulation). Two transfers were made directly from the holder to a sternman with a documented fishing history. Thirty-one permits were forfeited to the Division in 2005.

Commercial Landings and Value. In 2005, 11,399,893 pounds of lobster were reported landed by commercial lobstermen in Massachusetts, a 3.3 percent decrease from 2004 (Table 3). Just under 57 percent of those landings were taken from Territorial Waters. The territorial fishery is predominantly a trap-fishery, with 98.9 percent of the landings coming from traps. In contrast, the non-territorial fishery landed 14.9 percent of its catch from non-trap gear types, such as bottom trawls and gillnets.

The state-wide landings-weighted average ex-vessel price as taken from the SAFIS dealer-reporting database was \$5.02, an 11.5 percent increase over the previous year (Figure 3). The ex-vessel price followed a seasonal trend similar to prior years: Prices increased steadily from the first

of the year to a peak in March, dropping sharply in April, followed by relatively constant summer prices. The lowest prices of the year were seen in November, after which they rebounded steadily to above-average prices by the end of December. The estimated total value of the 2005 commercial catch rose by 7.9 percent to \$57,227,464 (total pounds x average ex-vessel price). While 2005 saw the lowest reported commercial lobster landings since the Division began collecting fisherman catch reports, those landings represented the highest total commercial value since 1999 (Figure 4).

In total pounds of lobster landed, Essex County continues to be ranked first, Barnstable County second and Plymouth County third (Appendix A, Table A1). Gloucester was the number one port in total pounds landed followed by Boston, Sandwich and Westport, in that order (Table 5). In terms of active commercial lobstermen, Essex County ranked first with 507, Plymouth County second with 251 and Barnstable County third with 194. Among the cities and towns of the Commonwealth, Gloucester ranked first in active fishermen followed by New Bedford, Plymouth and Rockport in that order.

Table 3. Massachusetts commercial landings (pounds), traps-fished and estimated value of landings for 2001-2005. "Total Traps" is calculated by summing each individual's maximum traps fished for the year. For the purposes of this table, all of an individual's maximum traps are considered "Territorial" if the majority of their landings come from Territorial Waters. Value is estimated by multiplying landings by the state-wide average ex-vessel price per pound.

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total Landings	12,237,121	13,776,018	11,429,379	11,784,110	11,399,893
Total Estimated Value	\$45,766,833	\$51,246,785	\$49,832,092	\$53,028,494	\$57,227,464
Total Traps Fished	473,027	507,891	480,484	448,844	427,247
Average Price (\$) / Lb	\$3.74	\$3.72	\$4.36	\$4.50	\$5.02
Ave. Lbs. / Trap-Haul	0.6697	0.7006	0.6052	0.6714	0.5479
Ave. Lbs. / Trap	24.22	25.27	21.45	23.75	23.80
Territorial					
Landings	7,175,335	8,189,365	6,884,885	7,100,620	6,468,652
Estimated Value	\$26,835,751	\$30,464,437	\$30,018,099	\$31,952,788	\$32,472,634
Trap Landings	7,163,730	8,159,401	6,831,179	7,016,460	6,404,068
Traps Fished	370,907	407,317	388,479	366,129	353,660
Non-Trap Landings	11,605	29,964	53,706	84,159	64,584
Non-Territorial					
Landings	5,061,787	5,586,653	4,544,494	4,683,490	4,931,241
Estimated Value	\$18,931,082	\$20,782,348	\$19,813,993	\$21,075,707	\$24,754,830
Trap Landings	4,293,430	4,675,725	3,473,630	3,641,366	3,764,683
Traps Fished	102,120	100,574	92,005	82,715	73,587
Non-Trap Landings	768,357	910,928	1,070,864	1,042,124	1,166,558

Figure 3. 2005 landings-weighted ex-vessel lobster price taken from the SAFIS dealer reporting database.

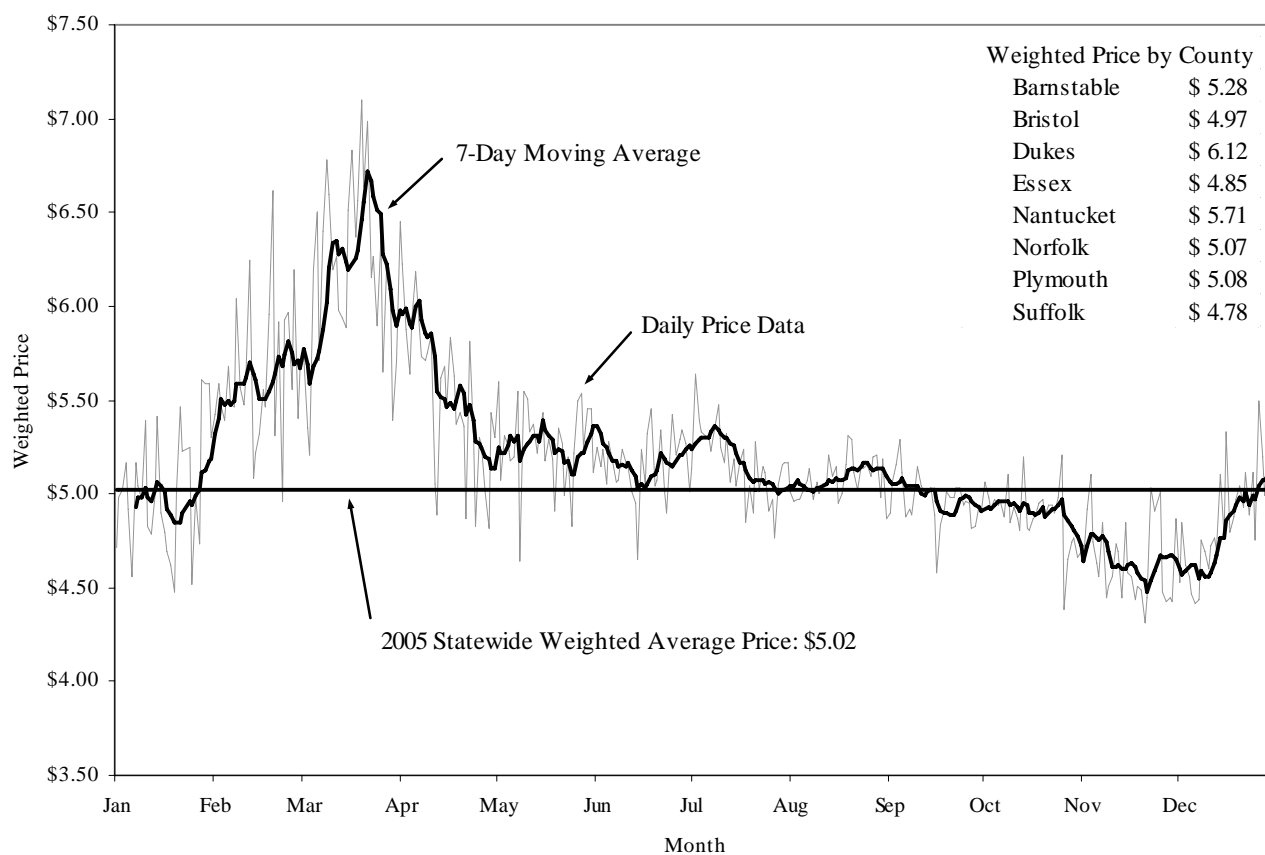


Figure 4. Total commercial lobster landings and estimated value for 1994—2005.

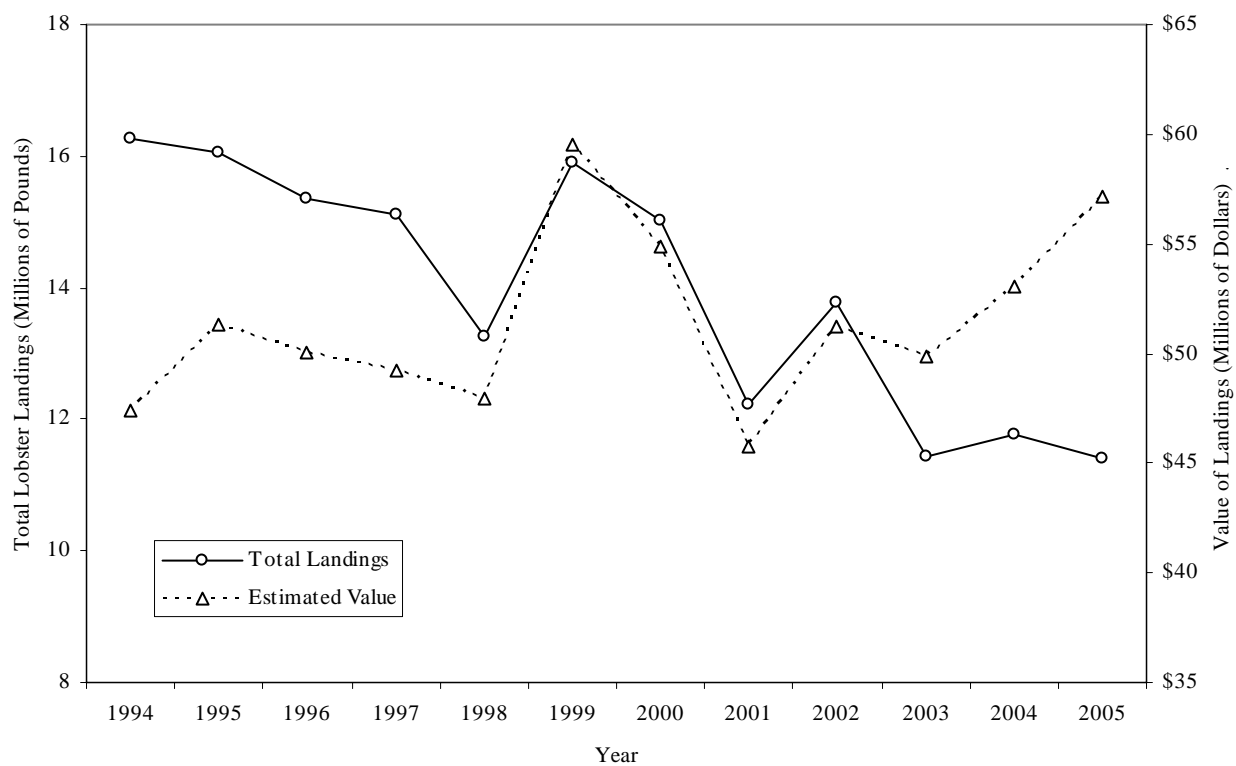


Table 4. Number of active commercial lobstermen, lobster landings and traps-fished by homeport for 2005 (does not include seasonal permits). Homeport data is taken from vessel information on the permit applications. In cases where no vessel or homeport was specified, port of landing was used. Catch data includes all reported landings, regardless of gear type, while effort data represents only trap effort. Shaded rows denote towns which rank in the top 10 for either number of fishermen, total catch, or total effort. Some cities and towns are combined to protect the confidentiality of the data.

City / Town	Fishermen		Catch (Pounds)					Effort *		
	Number	Rank	Territorial	Non-Territorial	Total	Percent	Rank	Traps	Percent	Rank
Barnstable-Yarmouth	7	34	25,137	273,755	298,892	2.67%	14	3,870	0.91%	27
Beverly	39	8	416,817	148,307	565,124	5.05%	7	21,143	4.97%	6
Boston	51	6	292,038	519,024	811,062	7.25%	2	18,988	4.47%	7
Bourne	3	46	5,047	0	5,047	0.05%	48	560	0.13%	47
Chatham	39	8	188,980	317,166	506,146	4.53%	8	8,985	2.11%	16
Chilmark	12	25	21,167	13,920	35,087	0.31%	36	3,122	0.73%	31
Cohasset	28	13	259,566	47,454	307,020	2.74%	12	13,430	3.16%	10
Danvers	8	30	51,375	0	51,375	0.46%	31	3,130	0.74%	30
Dartmouth	8	30	20,724	0	20,724	0.19%	40	1,385	0.33%	40
Dennis	15	23	40,879	0	40,879	0.37%	33	4,723	1.11%	25
Duxbury-Kingston	8	30	30,431	15	30,446	0.27%	37	1,725	0.41%	38
Eastham	3	46	7,963	0	7,963	0.07%	44	369	0.09%	48
Edgartown-Oak Bluffs	3	46	1,032	0	1,032	0.01%	50	155	0.04%	50
Essex	3	46	7,290	0	7,290	0.07%	45	790	0.19%	44
Fairhaven	28	13	109,621	107,461	217,083	1.94%	18	9,980	2.35%	14
Falmouth	7	34	5,925	31,335	37,260	0.33%	35	650	0.15%	46
Gloucester	194	1	815,170	751,975	1,567,145	14.01%	1	61,988	14.58%	1
Gosnold	3	46	4,514	0	4,514	0.04%	49	340	0.08%	49
Harwich	5	39	8,031	31,748	39,779	0.36%	34	1,150	0.27%	41
Hingham	15	23	165,475	21,684	187,159	1.67%	21	7,929	1.87%	19
Hull	17	21	191,239	40,564	231,803	2.07%	17	8,845	2.08%	17
Ipswich-Rowley	12	25	12,444	0	12,444	0.11%	41	2,250	0.53%	33
Lynn	4	44	4,075	3,177	7,252	0.06%	46	865	0.20%	43
Manchester	26	15	186,879	6,987	193,865	1.73%	19	8,841	2.08%	18
Marblehead	31	12	274,153	24,805	298,958	2.67%	13	14,619	3.44%	9
Marion	4	44	5,536	42,872	48,408	0.43%	32	2,200	0.52%	34
Marshfield	62	5	364,125	91,133	455,258	4.07%	10	27,432	6.45%	3
Mattapoisett	9	28	81,503	22,893	104,396	0.93%	24	4,950	1.16%	24
Nahant	17	21	248,027	12,811	260,838	2.33%	15	10,735	2.53%	13
Nantucket	5	39	21,060	32,018	53,078	0.47%	30	1,793	0.42%	37
New Bedford	120	2	51,670	423,997	475,666	4.25%	9	5,782	1.36%	23
Newburyport-Amesbury	25	17	52,635	51,295	103,930	0.93%	25	5,952	1.40%	22
Orleans	20	19	188,357	4,028	192,385	1.72%	20	7,082	1.67%	21
Plymouth	77	3	542,368	28,381	570,749	5.10%	6	32,824	7.72%	2
Provincetown	36	11	230,078	8,988	239,066	2.14%	16	9,903	2.33%	15
Quincy	7	34	25,097	0	25,097	0.22%	39	1,499	0.35%	39
Rockport	64	4	484,158	122,177	606,335	5.42%	5	24,154	5.68%	4
Salem	6	37	26,389	0	26,389	0.24%	38	2,110	0.50%	35
Salisbury	8	30	10,342	1,020	11,362	0.10%	42	2,070	0.49%	36
Sandwich	37	10	249,510	542,744	792,254	7.08%	3	23,403	5.51%	5
Saugus	20	19	153,557	11,511	165,068	1.48%	22	10,826	2.55%	12
Scituate	49	7	199,159	166,150	365,309	3.27%	11	16,181	3.81%	8
Swampscott	21	18	117,126	17,411	134,537	1.20%	23	7,595	1.79%	20
Tisbury	5	39	4,128	1,924	6,052	0.05%	47	940	0.22%	42
Truro	9	28	64,651	2,899	67,550	0.60%	27	3,515	0.83%	29
Wareham	5	39	10,287	0	10,287	0.09%	43	780	0.18%	45
Wellfleet	5	39	66,563	0	66,563	0.60%	28	2,680	0.63%	32
Westport-Fall River	26	15	24,963	744,203	769,166	6.88%	4	13,143	3.09%	11
Weymouth	6	37	36,712	53,208	89,920	0.80%	26	4,104	0.97%	26
Winthrop	10	27	58,817	902	59,719	0.53%	29	3,535	0.83%	28
Statewide Total	1,222		6,462,788	4,721,940	11,184,728			425,020		
Out Of State	47		0	209,249	209,249			1,600		

* The number of "Traps" for each city/town represents the sum of each individual's maximum traps fished for the year.

Territorial landings by commercial lobstermen showed a distinct seasonal trend (Figure 5; Table 5). Landings increased steadily from a low of 23,958 pounds in February to a high of 1,144,092 pounds in August and then dropped off again to 440,343 pounds in December. Commercial landings from non-territorial waters showed a slightly different seasonal trend, with the low in February and the peak in November. These annual patterns in territorial and non-territorial landings are similar to previous years.

The greatest harvest of lobster from territorial waters came from the Cape Ann vicinity (Statistical Reporting Area 2), where approximately 18 percent of the state's territorial harvest was caught (Figures 6 and 7). Reporting Areas 4, 3 and 5 had the next highest territorial landings, respectively, with over 79 percent of the territorial harvest coming from areas north of Cape Cod (Statistical Reporting Areas

1-7). In all, territorial landings were down 8.9 percent from 2004.

Reporting area 25 saw the highest non-territorial landings, closely followed by area 19, which was dominated by Coastal permit holders (Figures 6 and 7; Table 6). Offshore permit holders, which are not permitted to harvest lobsters from territorial waters, had their highest landings from Georges Bank (reporting areas 25, 23 and 22 in decreasing order).

Some misreporting has occurred in the past due to lobstermen reporting by Lobster Management Area (Figure 1) as opposed to Statistical Reporting Area (Figure 2), thereby artificially inflating landings in Reporting Areas 1, 2 and 3. However, we feel this problem has been minimized since 2002, due to a redesigned catch report form and visual screening of effort data prior to data entry.

Figure 5. 2005 commercial lobster landings by month for territorial and non-territorial areas

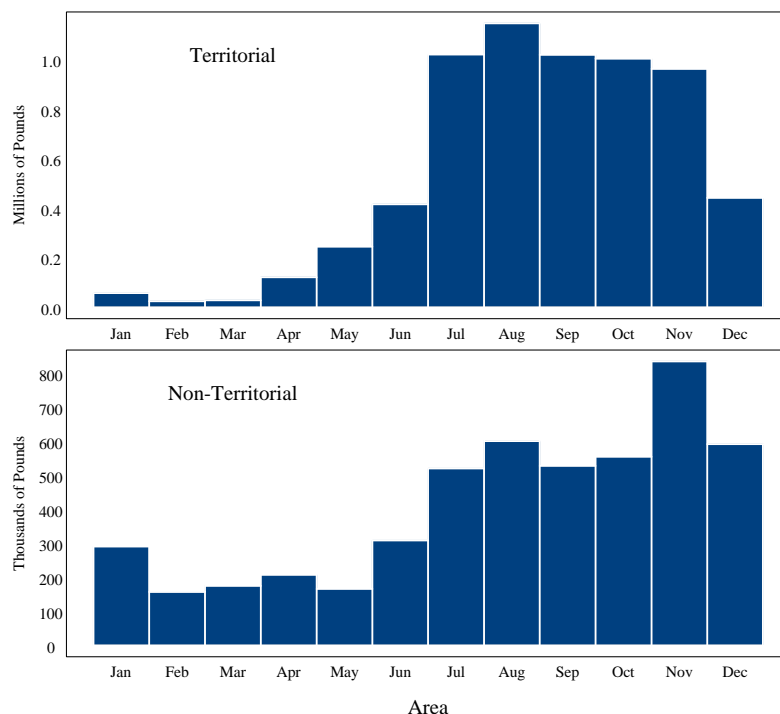


Table 5. 2005 commercial lobster landings (pounds) by month for territorial and non-territorial areas

Month	Territorial	Non-Territorial
January	57,563	290,240
February	23,958	156,850
March	27,800	174,690
April	120,617	206,977
May	244,412	165,598
June	413,548	309,548
July	1,018,363	520,066
August	1,143,747	600,884
September	1,017,177	527,171
October	1,001,754	553,667
November	959,872	833,959
December	439,843	591,589
Total	6,468,652	4,931,241

Figure 6. 2005 total commercial lobster landings from all permit types by statistical reporting area (A - territorial areas; B- non-territorial areas).

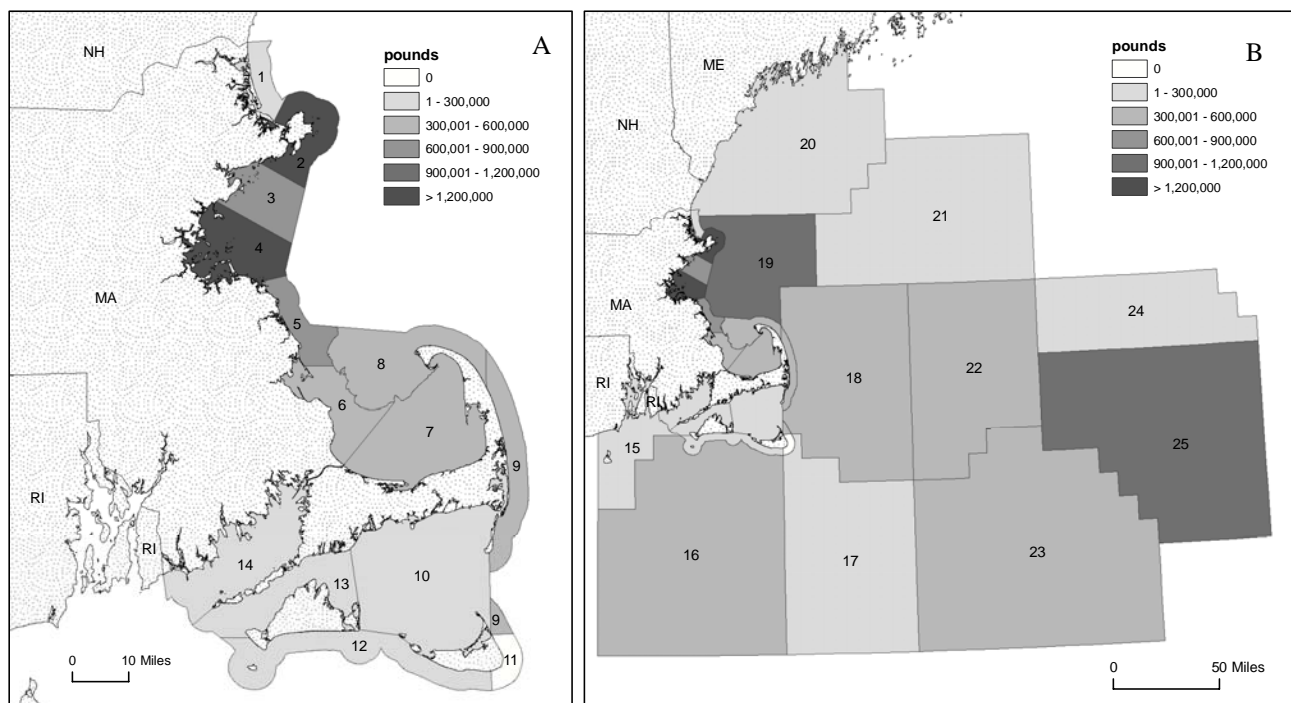
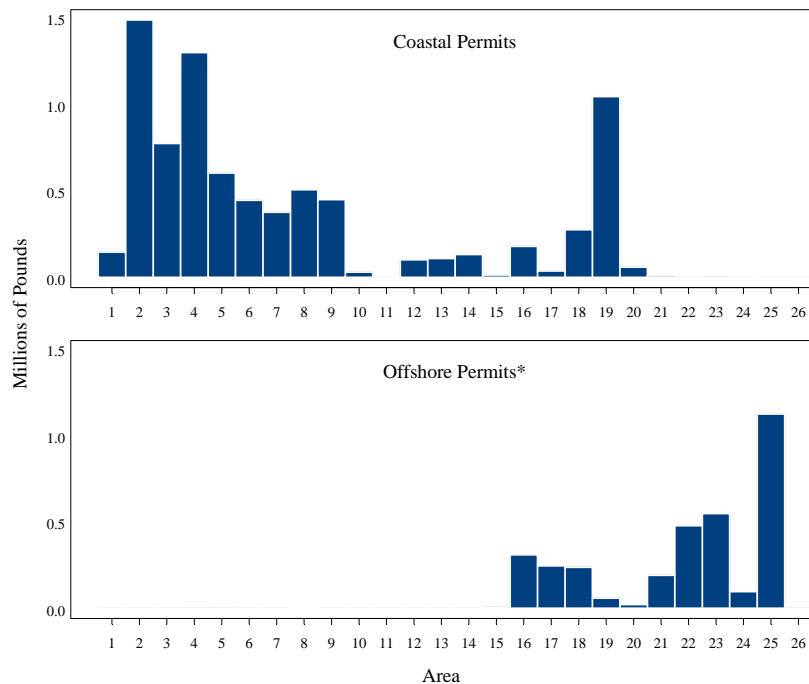


Figure 7. 2005 Commercial lobster landings by permit type and area.



* Offshore and Offshore Non-Trap landings combined

Table 6. 2005 Commercial lobster landings (pounds) by permit type and area.

Area	Coastal	Offshore*
1	145,711	0
2	1,489,369	0
3	774,290	0
4	1,301,115	0
5	602,731	0
6	446,285	0
7	376,534	0
8	508,439	0
9	449,510	0
10	30,200	0
11	0	0
12	101,498	0
13	108,015	0
14	131,997	0
15	12,674	5,004
16	178,520	308,871
17	36,711	245,558
18	275,269	236,711
19	1,045,930	57,785
20	59,006	21,517
21	8,350	190,839
22	0	477,636
23	349	547,524
24	0	96,099
25	0	1,123,117
26 †	0	815
Total	8,082,501	3,311,476

† Area 26 includes any landings from outside the MA Statistical Reporting Areas

Recreational Landings. Recreational lobstermen reported landing 194,230 lobsters in 2005, a 1.5 percent decrease from 2004 (Table 7). Although recreational landings are reported in numbers of lobsters harvested, a rough estimate of total pounds harvested can be made by multiplying by an average size of 1.46 pounds per lobster. Therefore, estimated recreational landings of 283,576 pounds represents approximately 2.5 percent of the total commercial landings.

The total number of recreational traps-fished increased by 2.5 percent to 25,471 and the number of hours diving increased by 4.6 percent to 44,392

(Figure 8). The average number of traps fished by potmen was 4.2 traps, while the average numbers of hours diving was 7.4 hours.

Table 7. Reported catch and effort information for 2005 Massachusetts recreational lobster fishery

	Diver	Diver/Pot	Potman	Total
Number of Lobsters	26,796	61,744	105,690	194,230
Pounds of Lobster *	39,122	90,146	154,307	283,576
Traps Fished		7,345	18,126	25,471
Hours Diving	19,950	24,442		44,392

* Based on 1.46 Pounds per Lobster.

Figure 8. Reported recreational lobster landings for 1994-2005

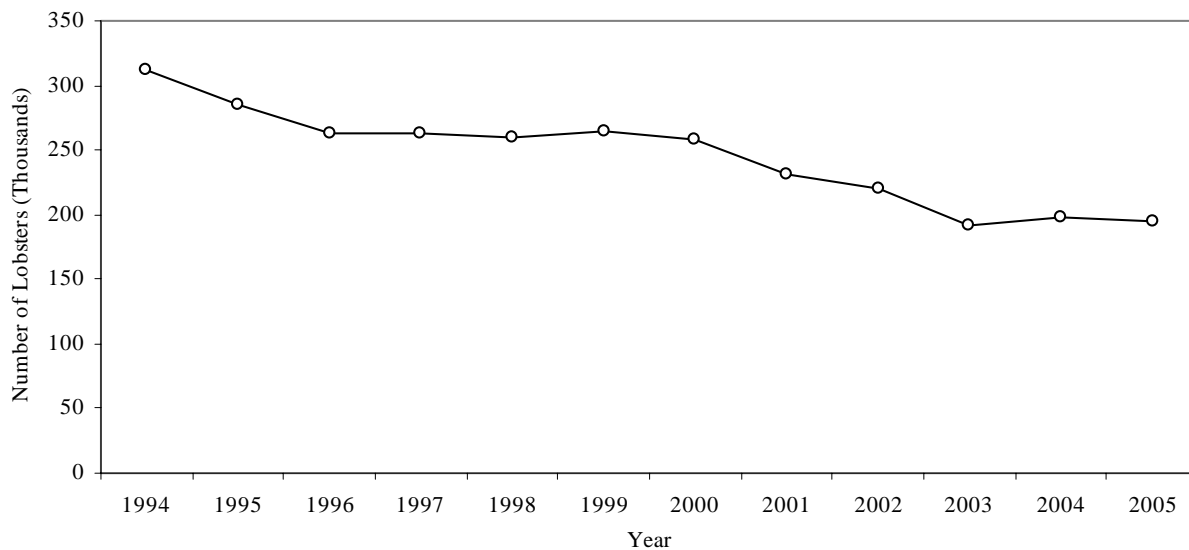
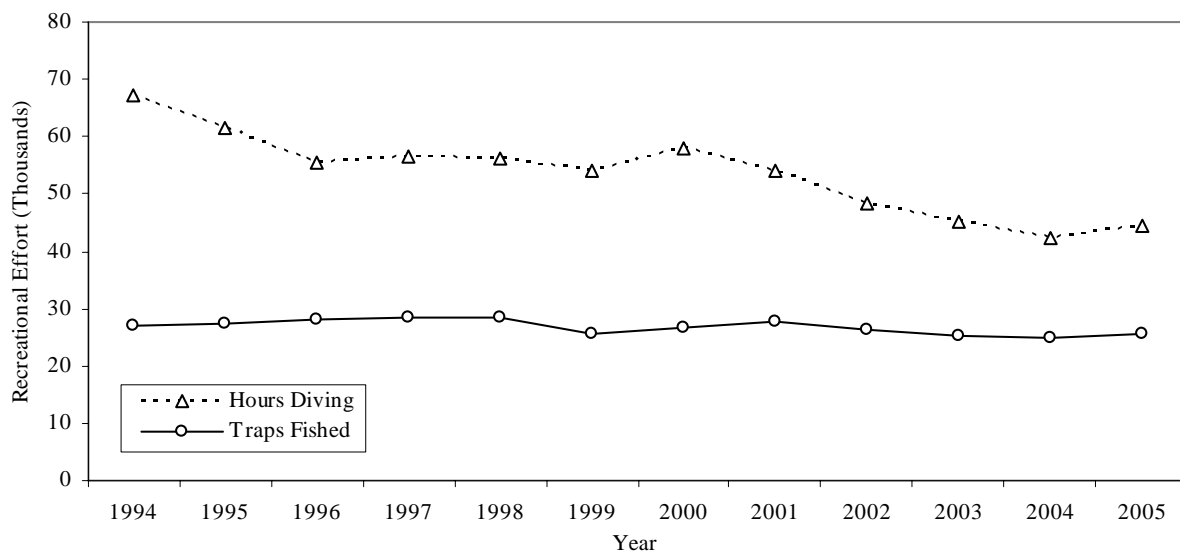


Figure 9. Reported recreational lobster effort for 1994-2005



Catch rates. There was a modification in the way catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) was calculated for 2005. In prior years, the CPUEs for each fisherman-month-area combination were averaged to achieve the catch rate values for this section. To more accurately reflect the catch rates as reported by fishermen, the calculation was altered to treat each fishermen-month combination equally. The new calculation method was also used for the years 1994 through 2004 in Figure 11.

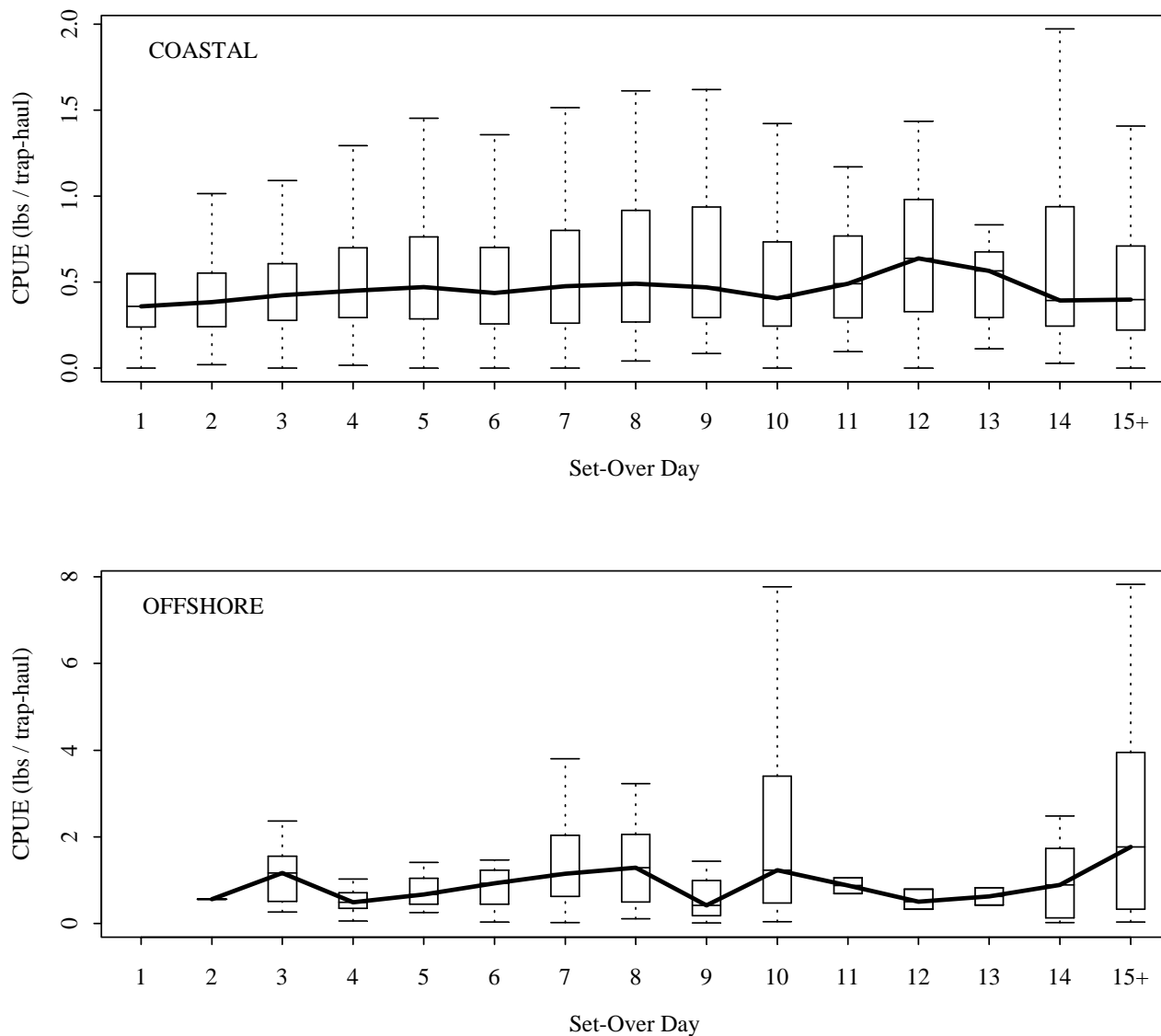
The average catch per trap-haul for Coastal lobstermen in 2005 was 0.597 pounds, a 9.8% decrease from 2004. Typically, catch rates gradually increase with respect to set-over-days, up to about one week, beyond which they become more variable. Al-

though this relationship between soak time and catch rates was roughly apparent in the 2005 data, it was not as well defined as in past years (Figure 10).

For Offshore lobstermen, the average catch per trap-haul was 1.488 pounds, a 24.7% decrease from 2004. Catch rates for offshore lobstermen were higher than those of their coastal counterparts, yet far more variable. In consequence, the relationship between catch rates and soak time is less well defined for offshore permit holders (Figure 10).

Figures 11 through 14 show the average catch rate with set-over-day factored into the effort (pounds per trap-haul*set-over-day). The average catch per trap-haul*set-over-day for offshore lobstermen was 0.173 pounds, a 19.2% decrease from

Figure 10. Catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul) by set-over day for coastal and offshore potmen in 2005. The solid line represents the median values, the boxes represent 50% of the observations at each SOD, and the “whiskers” indicate the minimum and maximum values; outliers are not shown.



2004 (Figure 11). This represents the lowest reported catch rate for Offshore Lobstermen on record. Coastal lobstermen landed 0.135 pounds per trap-haul*set-over-day, a 12.9% decrease from 2004.

Catch rates also followed a distinct annual trend (Figure 12). Offshore lobstermen experienced their lowest catch rates in April and their highest in No-

vember. This general annual pattern is similar to previous years, but differs from 2004 in that the highest catch rates occurred in July of that year. Average catch rates for Coastal permit holders hit their low in March and high in November. Although offshore lobstermen had higher catch rates for most of the year, coastal permit holders were equally as productive in April and May.

Figure 11. Average catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) for coastal and offshore potmen for 1994—2005.

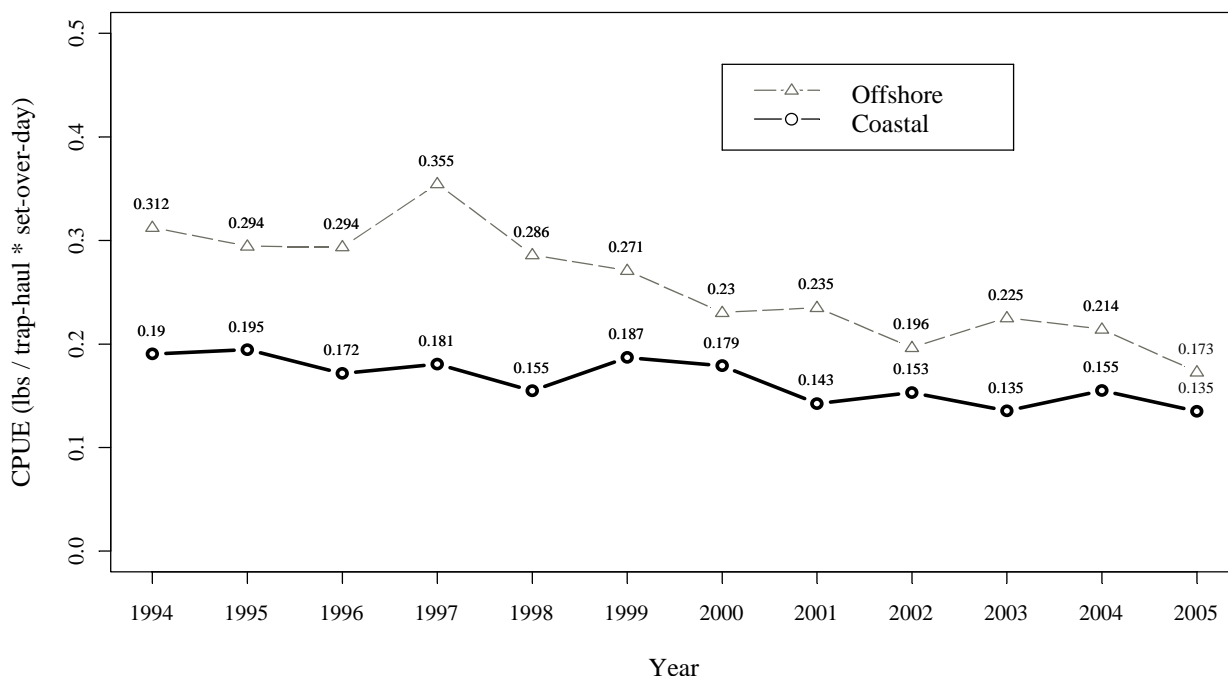
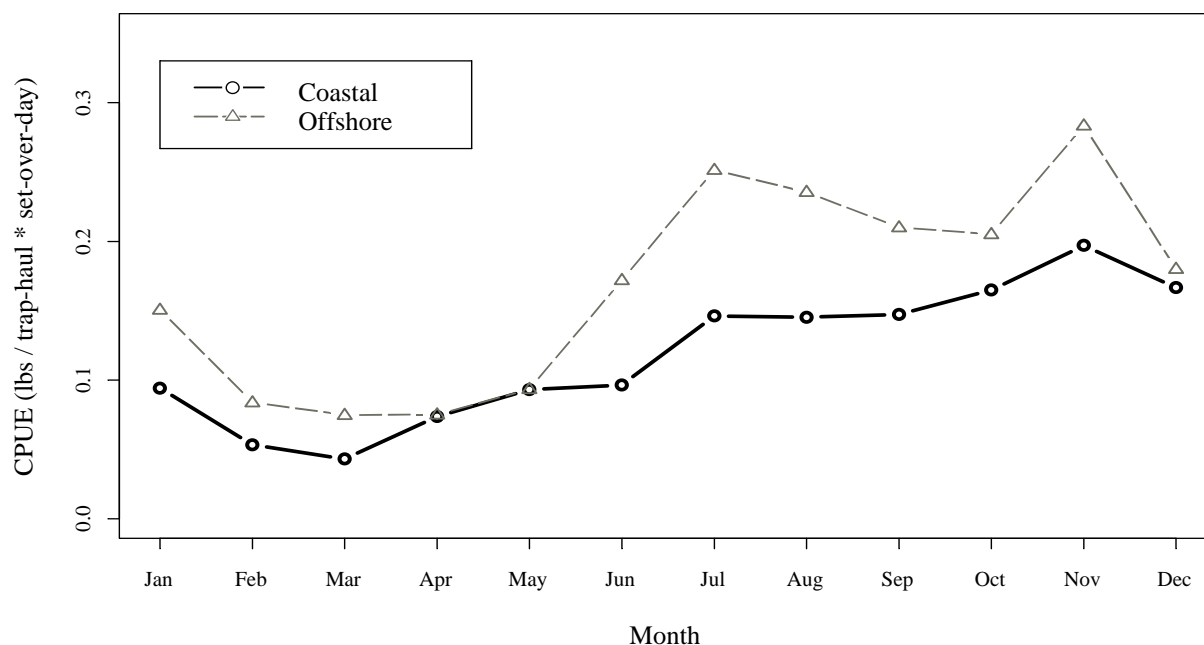


Figure 12. Average catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) for coastal and offshore potmen by month in 2005



The highest catch rates occurred in non-territorial waters in 2005 (Figures 13 and 14). However, catch rates in these areas were more variable than in territorial waters, as is indicated by the width of the box and whisker plots in Figure 13. Within territorial waters, the highest catch rates occurred in areas 9 (Outer Cape Cod), 8 (Cape Cod Bay) and 12 (South of the Islands). The lowest catch rates for territorial waters occurred in areas 1

(Ipswich Bay), 14 (Buzzards Bay) and 5 (South Shore). In non-territorial waters, the highest catch rates occurred in the vicinity of Georges Bank (areas 22 and 25) and area 18. Area 20, off the coasts of Maine and New Hampshire, had the lowest catch rates for non-territorial waters. No traps were fished in areas 11 in 2005, therefore no catch rate information is available for this area.

Figure 13. 2005 catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) for all license types by area fished. The center line of each box represents the median value for that area. The box represents 50% of the observed values, while the “whiskers” show the minimum and maximum values; outliers are not shown.

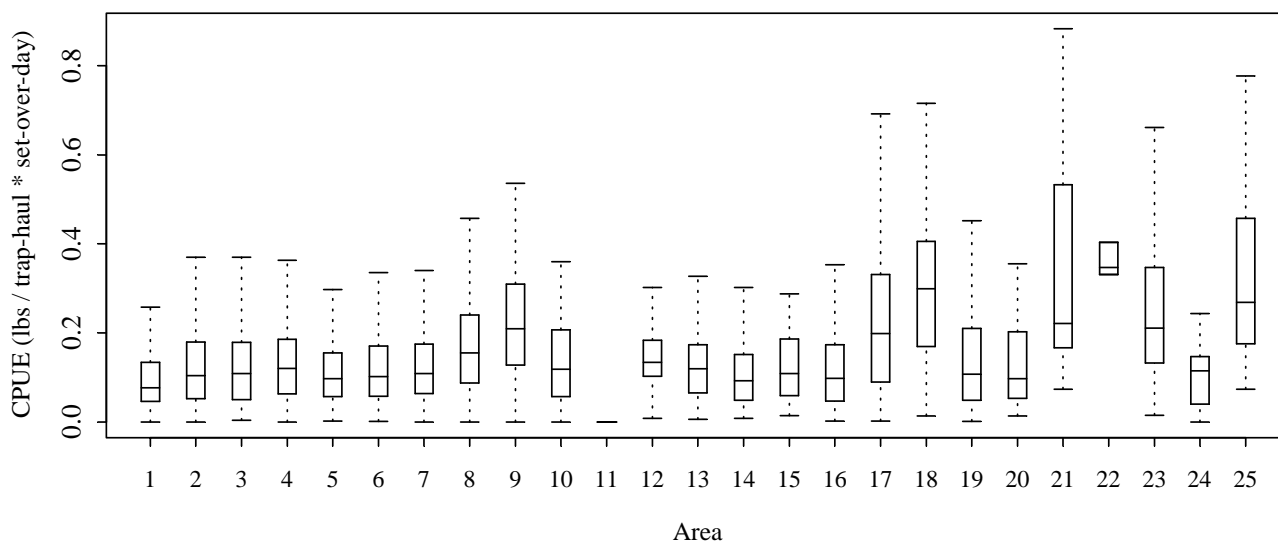
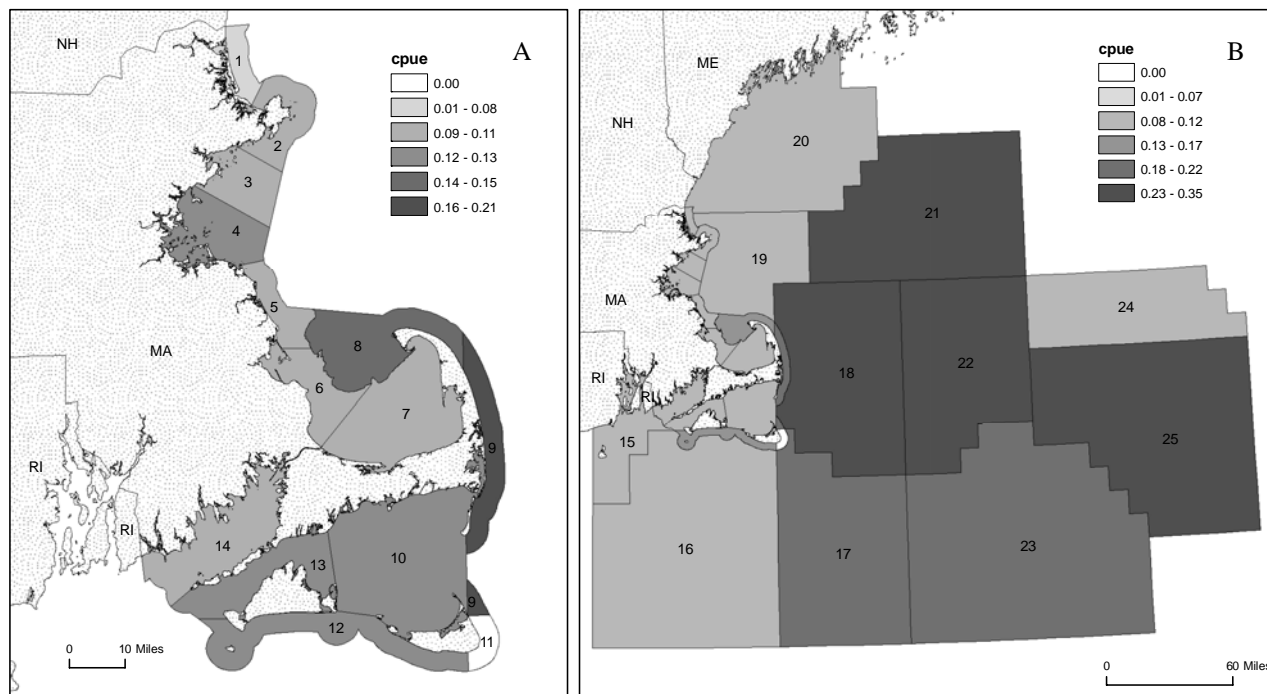


Figure 14. 2005 median catch per unit of effort (pounds per trap-haul * set-over-day) for all license types by area fished (A - territorial areas; B- non-territorial areas).



Fishing gear and vessels. In the commercial fishery, traps were valued at \$30,736,117 (Table 8), diving gear at \$81,450 and power and non-power boats at \$64,226,113 (Table A3) yielding a total gear value of \$95,043,680, a 3.7% decrease over last year. Combined with the ex-vessel value of lobster sold, \$53,028,494 (Table 4), this gives a total fishery value of \$152,237,300, a 0.3% increase over last year.

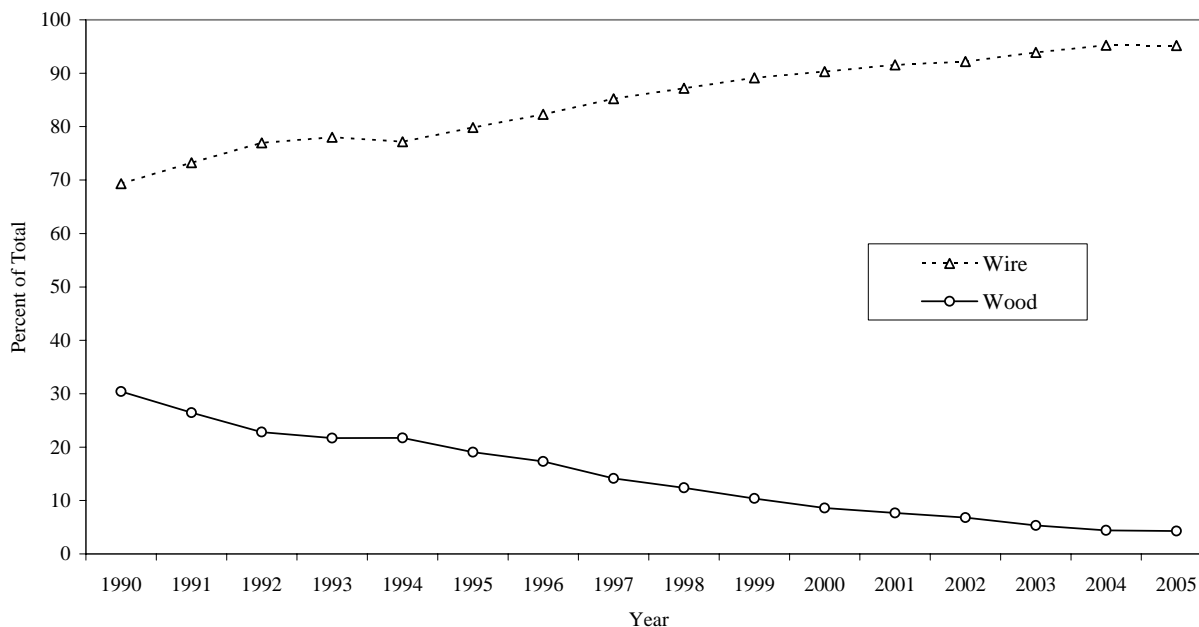
Overall, 95.19 percent of the traps fished in the commercial fishery were wire framed, with 4.28% percent being wooden framed and approximately 0.53 percent categorized as "other." This represents the 11th consecutive decrease in the percentage of wood-framed traps (Figure 15). Average trap values (including warp and buoy) ranged from \$40.00 to \$147.50 with an overall average value of \$71.93 (Table 8).

Table 8. Types of lobster traps fished and value by permit type for 2005

	Coastal	Offshore	Seasonal	Total for Trap Type	Percent of Total
Wooden Framed Traps	17,582	688	4	18,274	4.28%
Value	\$1,271,782	\$94,834	\$149	\$1,366,765	
Value/Trap	\$64.48	\$143.75	\$40.00	\$74.79	
Wire Framed Traps	373,248	32,556	938	406,742	95.19%
Value	\$25,260,064	\$3,948,403	\$50,050	\$29,258,517	
Value/Trap	\$63.67	\$106.79	\$59.06	\$71.93	
Other Trap Types	2,076	220	0	2,296	0.54%
Value	\$82,107	\$28,728	\$0	\$110,835	
Value/Trap	\$63.33	\$147.50	\$0.00	\$48.27	
Total for License Type	392,906	33,464	942	427,312	
Value	\$26,613,953	\$4,071,965	\$50,199	\$30,736,117	
Value/Trap	\$67.74	\$121.68	\$53.29	\$71.93	

Value of trap includes warp and buoy. These figures include out-of-state fishermen.

Figure 15. Percent of total traps fished by trap construction type; 1990 - 2005.



Validity of data.

For the past 17 years, the Division has estimated the amount of error involved in the reporting process by auditing a random sample of Coastal lobstermen's catch reports. Each year, 150 Coastal Permit holders (approximately 10%) were randomly selected and asked to submit the records that were used to complete the harvest portion of their catch report. These records were tallied by project personnel and compared to the reported values on the catch reports.

Starting on January 1st 2005, all Massachusetts dealers were required to report all "Primary Purchases" of lobster, as well as any other marine species, to the Division. A "Primary Purchase" refers to any transaction made directly with the fishermen who harvested the product. This new source of data provides an alternative method of describing the fisherman reporting error. However, since this represents the first year the SAFIS dealer reporting database was fully implemented for Massachusetts, considerable gaps exist in the data required to conduct an audit of fishermen reports. For example, if a dealer neglected to report the fisherman associated to a lobster transaction, it was not possible to match those landings against a specific catch report. Furthermore, if a dealer associated a lobster transaction with the incorrect fisherman (or the correct fisherman, but wrong permit), those landings would be

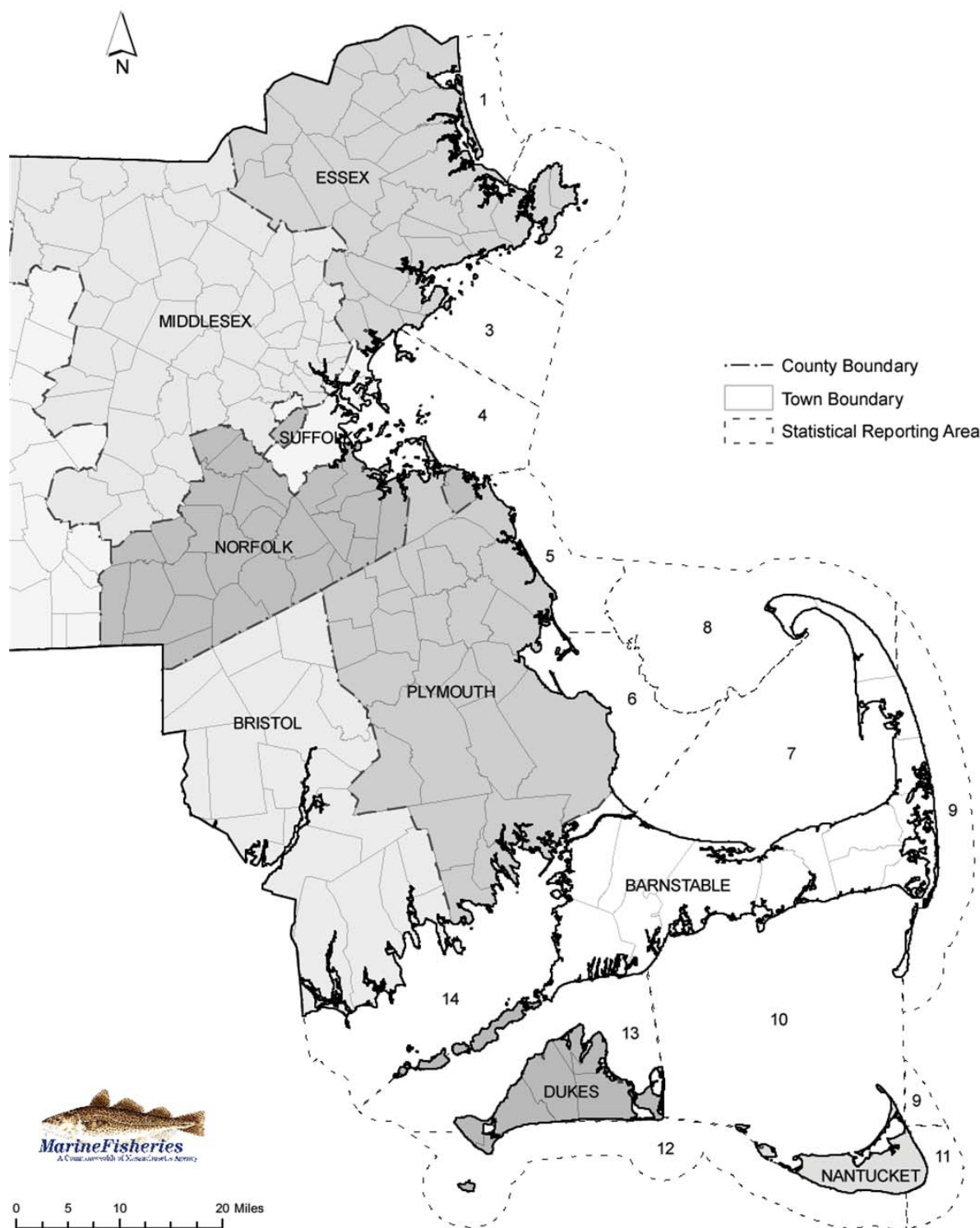
matched against the wrong fisherman catch report.

Regardless of these inadequacies, a cursory comparison of the two datasets indicated that more than half of dealer-reported lobster purchases were within 10% of fisherman reported totals. In future years, as the dealer reporting system develops and compliance monitoring is improved, a far better match between the two datasets should be obtainable. Subsequently, a more detailed description of the accuracy of both fisherman and dealer reports will be provided.

Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared by personnel of the Division of Marine Fisheries MIS and Fisheries Statistics Project, funded jointly by the Commonwealth and the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act (Public Law 11-407; Project IJ-NA05NMF4071027). The preparation of this report would not have been possible without the cooperation of licensed lobstermen who provided the information on their annual reports. The authors also wish to acknowledge the efforts of Mary Ann Fletcher, who helped interpret and key-punch the catch reports, as well as the assistance of Kerry Allard and Cecil French from our permitting office.

Figure 16. Map of coastal Massachusetts showing county boundaries and statistical reporting areas.



APPENDIX A - SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Table A1. Number of fishermen, landings (pounds) and value for 2005 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery.

AREA:		INSHORE (Areas 1 - 14)						OFFSHORE (Areas 15 - 25)									
LICENSE TYPE:	GEAR TYPE:	COASTAL			SEASONAL	TOTAL INSHORE	COASTAL			OFFSHORE			SEASONAL	TOTAL OFFSHORE	GRAND TOTAL		
		Dive	Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet			Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet	Combined*	Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet	Combined*					
-- COUNTY -- BARNSTABLE Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			132		8	144 + 1,082,353 5,433,412	8				8	32		50 + 1,212,663 6,087,567	194 2,295,016 11,520,979		
			1,068,414		1,232		255,028				840,443	114,228					
			5,363,439		6,183		1,280,239				4,219,024	573,425					
BRISTOL Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			44			45 + 207,034 1,039,310	11				10	117		139 + 1,275,714 6,404,082	184 1,482,747 7,443,392		
			206,978				134,020				666,881	474,761					
			1,039,029				672,778				3,347,743	2,383,300					
DUKES Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			20			21 + 31,049 155,864								3 + 15,844 79,536	24 46,892 235,399		
			30,842														
			154,825														
ESSEX Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			363		29	398 + 2,864,271 14,378,638	26	8	3		4	68		109 1,151,475 5,780,403	507 4,015,745 20,159,041		
			2,774,138		3,834		669,006	18,959	61,038		277,065	125,407					
			13,926,174		19,248		3,358,410	95,173	306,410		1,390,865	629,545					
NANTUCKET Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			4			4 21,060 105,720								1 + 32,018 160,730	5 53,078 266,450		
			21,060														
			105,720														
NORFOLK Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			39			40 + 321,374 1,613,298								1 + 100,662 505,323	41 422,036 2,118,622		
			321,194														
			1,612,395														
PLYMOUTH Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			211	5	4	226 + 1,590,594 7,984,780	7	4			3	10		25 + 413,691 2,076,731	251 2,004,285 10,061,511		
			1,550,239		471		296,311	25,438			62,666	16,745					
			7,782,201		2,364		1,487,483	127,699			314,583	84,060					
SUFFOLK Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)			39			40 + 350,884 1,761,437								22 + 519,926 2,610,029	62 870,810 4,371,466		
			350,855														
			1,761,291														
STATE TOTAL Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)		4 +	852	7 +	10 +	918	55 +	13 +	4 +	28 +	247	2 +	350	1 +	1,268		
		2,890	6,323,720	23,377	112,802	6,468,617	1,498,493	44,746	73,569	2,187,923	914,245	2,964	4,721,992	52	11,190,610		
		14,508	31,745,073	117,351	566,265	32,472,459	7,522,436	224,623	369,315	10,983,375	4,589,511	14,879	23,704,401	261	56,176,860		
OUT OF STATE Fishermen Pounds Value (\$)														47 +	48		
														209,249	209,284		
														1,050,429	1,050,605		

* Combined gear type means the use of more than one gear type in a year (ie. pots & dive)

+ Row and column totals may not equal the sum of the rows or columns due to masking of the data.

Value is based on an ex-vessel price of \$5.02, per pound see Figure 2.

Table A2. Number of fishing vessels by gear category and pots fished for 2005 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery

AREA:		INSHORE (Areas 1 - 14)					OFFSHORE (Areas 15 - 25)					GRAND TOTAL	
LICENSE TYPE:		COASTAL			SEASONAL	TOTAL INSHORE	COASTAL			Pots	OFFSHORE Trawl/Gillnet	SEASONAL	TOTAL OFFSHORE
GEAR TYPE:		Dive	Pots	Trawl/Gillnet	Combined*	Pots	Pots	Trawl/Gillnet	Combined*	Pots	Trawl/Gillnet	Pots	
-- COUNTY --													
BARNSTABLE													
Pots Fished	0	49,153	0	91	347	49,591	5,583	0	0	12,063	0	0	17,646
Power Boat	3	149	0	2	7	161	10	0	0	7	33	2	52
Non Power Boat	0	16	0	0	0	16	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
BRISTOL													
Pots Fished	0	13,910	0	0	50	13,960	5,917	0	0	10,463	0	40	16,420
Power Boat	0	47	0	0	1	48	11	0	0	10	104	1	126
Non Power Boat	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
DUKES													
Pots Fished	0	3,557	0	0	84	3,641	500	0	0	500	0	0	1,000
Power Boat	0	21	0	0	1	22	1	1	0	1	0	0	3
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ESSEX													
Pots Fished	0	149,902	0	2,400	1,268	153,570	19,080	0	2,400	3,286	0	0	24,766
Power Boat	0	384	2	6	26	418	28	8	3	4	62	0	105
Non Power Boat	0	50	0	0	1	51	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
NANTUCKET													
Pots Fished	0	993	0	0	0	993	800	0	0	0	0	0	800
Power Boat	0	6	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORFOLK													
Pots Fished	0	17,379	0	0	0	17,379	0	0	0	1,654	0	0	1,654
Power Boat	1	44	0	0	0	45	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Non Power Boat	0	10	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PLYMOUTH													
Pots Fished	0	95,648	0	609	152	96,409	4,300	0	0	5,918	0	0	10,218
Power Boat	1	255	5	4	5	270	12	5	1	3	10	0	31
Non Power Boat	0	20	0	1	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUFFOLK													
Pots Fished	0	19,411	0	0	37	19,448	1,523	0	0	3,139	0	0	4,662
Power Boat	0	40	0	0	1	41	1	0	0	1	20	0	22
Non Power Boat	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTAL													
Pots Fished	0	349,953	0	3,100	1,938	354,991	37,703	0	2,400	37,023	0	40	77,166
Power Boat	5	946	7	12	41	1,011	64	14	4	27	229	1	341
Non Power Boat	0	98	0	1	2	101	5	0	0	0	0	0	5
OUT OF STATE													
Pots Fished	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1,600	0	1,604
Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	49
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Combined gear type means the use of more than one gear type in a year (i.e. pots & dive)

Table A3. Value of fishing vessels and diving gear for 2005 Massachusetts commercial lobster fishery.

AREA:	INSHORE (Areas 1 - 14)					OFFSHORE (Areas 15 - 25)										
LICENSE TYPE:	COASTAL -----				SEASONAL	TOTAL INSHORE	COASTAL -----				OFFSHORE -----			SEASONAL	TOTAL OFFSHORE	GRAND TOTAL
GEAR TYPE:	Dive	Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet	Combined*	Pots		Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet	Combined*	Pots	Trawl/ Gillnet	Combined*	Pots			
-- COUNTY --																
BARNSTABLE																
Diving Gear	4,500	21,000	0	10,600	0	36,100	6,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,000	42,100	
Power Boat	19,250	5,872,120	0	212,000	38,100	6,141,470	982,000	0	0	3,280,000	558,500	3,750	0	4,824,250	10,965,720	
Non Power Boat	0	5,906	0	0	0	5,906	1,428	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,428	7,334	
BRISTOL																
Diving Gear	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Power Boat	0	1,858,325	0	0	12,500	1,870,825	931,000	0	0	2,948,000	2,716,100	0	13,500	6,608,600	8,479,425	
Non Power Boat	0	100	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	
DUKES																
Diving Gear	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Power Boat	0	473,575	0	0	50,000	523,575	75,000	3,000	0	25,000	0	0	0	103,000	626,575	
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	700	700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	700	
ESSEX																
Diving Gear	0	17,800	0	0	0	17,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17,800	
Power Boat	0	13,627,956	37,750	417,300	184,490	14,267,496	3,999,650	62,750	225,000	808,000	931,950	0	0	6,027,350	20,294,846	
Non Power Boat	0	22,810	0	0	300	23,110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23,110	
NANTUCKET																
Diving Gear	0	1,300	0	0	0	1,300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,300	
Power Boat	0	192,500	0	0	0	192,500	120,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	120,000	312,500	
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
NORFOLK																
Diving Gear	4,000	0	0	0	0	4,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,000	
Power Boat	1,450	1,749,990	0	0	0	1,751,440	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,751,440	
Non Power Boat	0	3,400	0	0	0	3,400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,400	
PLYMOUTH																
Diving Gear	3,000	9,250	3,000	1,000	0	16,250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,250	
Power Boat	16,000	11,629,230	8,005	165,600	18,720	11,837,555	1,076,900	120,650	75,000	356,600	101,700	0	0	1,730,850	13,568,405	
Non Power Boat	0	10,698	0	100	0	10,798	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,798	
SUFFOLK																
Diving Gear	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Power Boat	0	2,014,510	0	0	5,000	2,019,510	250,000	0	0	900,000	5,011,250	0	0	6,161,250	8,180,760	
Non Power Boat	0	1,000	0	0	0	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	
STATE TOTAL																
Diving Gear	11,500	49,350	3,000	11,600	0	75,450	6,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,000	81,450	
Power Boat	36,700	37,418,206	45,755	794,900	308,810	38,604,371	7,434,550	186,400	300,000	8,317,600	9,319,500	3,750	13,500	25,575,300	64,179,671	
Non Power Boat	0	43,914	0	100	1,000	45,014	1,428	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,428	46,442	
OUT OF STATE																
Diving Gear	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,800	0	0	0	175,000	1,170,500	0	1,349,300	1,349,300	
Non Power Boat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

* Combined gear type means the use of more than one gear type in a year (i.e. pots & dive)

APPENDIX B - COMMERCIAL CATCH REPORTS



2005 COASTAL LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
251 CAUSEWAY STREET, SUITE 101, BOSTON, MA 02114-2153



CATCH REPORT DUE DATE: JANUARY 31, 2006
PRINT IN INK ONLY

PLEASE REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK PAGE WHILE COMPLETING THIS LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

****IMPORTANT**** THIS REPORT IS SUBJECT TO A RANDOM STATISTICAL AUDIT BY THE DIVISION, YOU SHOULD MAINTAIN ALL RECEIPTS, DEALER SLIPS, PERSONAL RECORDS, ETC. USED TO COMPLETE THIS REPORT FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR FOLLOWING THE DATE OF SUBMISSION IN CASE YOU ARE CHOSEN.

PLEASE PRINT IN INK ONLY

IDENTIFICATION: DMF ID No: _____ Permit No: _____
Name as it appears on permit application: _____
(Last) (First) (MI)
Address: _____
(No.) (Street) (City/Town) (Zip Code)
Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

CATCH STATUS:

- A. If you **DID NOT CATCH** any lobster during 2005, check the box ☐ AND sign your name and date the report at bottom of this page and return it to the Division.
- B. If you **DID CATCH** lobster during 2005, complete **BOTH SIDES** of this report as completely and accurately as possible. All lobster taken under this permit must be recorded on this report, even if taken incidentally

**** If you fished in conjunction with another permit holder in 2005, please report your catch and effort information separately ****

GEAR:

- A) Circle one or more of the following gear types used to catch lobster: TRAPS/POTS DIVING GEAR TRAWL/DREDGES GILLNET
- B) If you fished traps in 2005, estimate the average value of one trap including warp and buoy: \$ _____
- C) Indicate the type of traps by completing the percent of total that were fished in 2005:
1. Wood Framed _____% 2. Wire Framed _____% 3. Other _____%
- D) If you dove for lobster in 2005, estimate the value of your diving gear and the percent used for catching lobsters:
Estimated Value of Diving Gear: \$ _____ Percent Used for Catching Lobsters: _____ %

PORT(S) OF LANDING:

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION WHETHER OR NOT YOU USED A BOAT TO LAND YOUR LOBSTER.

	PORT NAME	PERCENT
Indicate the port(s) where you landed your catch. If you landed your catch in more than one port, estimate the percent of lobster landed at each port listed.	1. _____	_____%
	2. _____	_____%
	3. _____	_____%

SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

Knowingly falsifying any information contained within this report constitutes the act of perjury and may result in a fine, imprisonment or loss of license (MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 2, 21, 33).

COMPLETE BACK OF THIS FORM IF YOU CAUGHT LOBSTER IN 2005



2005 OFFSHORE LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
251 CAUSEWAY STREET, SUITE 101, BOSTON, MA 02114-2153



CATCH REPORT DUE DATE: JANUARY 31, 2006

PRINT IN INK ONLY

PLEASE REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK PAGE WHILE COMPLETING THIS LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

PLEASE PRINT IN INK ONLY

IDENTIFICATION:

DMF ID No: _____

Permit No: _____

Name as it appears
on permit application:

(Last)

(First)

(MI)

Address:

(No.)

(Street)

(City/Town)

(Zip Code)

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

CATCH STATUS:

A. If you **DID NOT CATCH** any lobster during 2005, check the box ☐ **AND sign your name and date the report at bottom of this page and return it to the Division.**

B. If you **DID CATCH** lobster during 2005, complete **BOTH SIDES** of this report as completely and accurately as possible. All lobster taken under this permit must be recorded on this report, even if taken incidentally

**** If you fished in conjunction with another permit holder in 2005, please report your catch and effort information separately ****

GEAR:

A) Circle one or more of the following gear types used to catch lobster: TRAPS/POTS DIVING GEAR TRAWL/DREDGES GILLNET

B) If you fished traps in 2005, estimate the average value of one trap including warp and buoy: \$

C) Indicate the type of traps by completing the percent of total that were fished in 2005:

1. Wood Framed % 2. Wire Framed % 3. Other %

D) If you dove for lobster in 2005, estimate the value of your diving gear and the percent used for catching lobsters:

Estimated Value of Diving Gear: \$ Percent Used for Catching Lobsters: %

PORT(S) OF LANDING:

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION WHETHER OR NOT YOU USED A BOAT TO LAND YOUR LOBSTER.

	<u>PORT NAME</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Indicate the port(s) where you landed your catch. If you landed your catch in more than one port, estimate the percent of lobster landed at each port listed.	1. <u> </u>	<u> </u> %
	2. <u> </u>	<u> </u> %
	3. <u> </u>	<u> </u> %

SIGNATURE: _____

Date: _____

Knowingly falsifying any information contained within this report constitutes the act of perjury and may result in a fine, imprisonment or loss of license (MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 2, 21, 33).

COMPLETE BACK OF THIS FORM IF YOU CAUGHT LOBSTER IN 2005

2005 OFFSHORE LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

2

VESSELS:

THIS SECTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY VESSEL OWNER OR PRINCIPAL USER ONLY. BE SURE TO INCLUDE TENDERS USED.

Power (Y/N)	Boat Name	Length (ft)	Home Port	Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel	Percent Used for Lobstering

FUEL:

Total gallons of fuel used for the year to catch lobster: Gasoline: _____ Diesel: _____

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT:

Counting yourself, what was the maximum number of people fishing for lobster on your vessel at any one time in 2005? ____

* For example, if you employed one sternman, you would answer two (2).

DEALERS SOLD TO:

Indicate the dealer(s) you sold your catch to. If you sold your catch to more than one dealer, estimate the percent of lobster sold to each dealer. If you sold lobsters retail, be sure to indicate yourself as a dealer.

	DEALER NAME	DEALER PERMIT #	PERCENT
1.	_____	_____	____ %
2.	_____	_____	____ %
3.	_____	_____	____ %
4.	_____	_____	____ %
5.	_____	_____	____ %

HARVEST TABLE:

***** IMPORTANT *****

REFER TO MAP OF STATISTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE TO COMPLETE THE AREA(S) FISHED PORTION OF HARVEST TABLE

DO NOT INDICATE LMA'S (Lobster Management Areas) IN AREA(S) FISHED IN TABLE BELOW

FILL IN SHADED AREA ONLY IF YOU USED TRAPS AS YOUR GEAR						REFER TO MAP OF STASTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE →→→→→								
	GEAR USED TO HARVEST LOBSTER	MAX TRAPS FISHING	SET OVER DAYS	AVERAGE TRAPS HAULED PER TRIP WHEN FISHING	TOTAL TRIPS WHEN TRAPS HAULED	POUNDS HARVESTED			FIRST AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	SECOND AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	THIRD AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH
						LOBSTER SOLD	LOBSTER NOT SOLD*	CRABS						
EX.	TRAPS	400	2	200	28	2240	60	0	5	75	7	25		
JAN														
FEB														
MAR														
APR														
MAY														
JUN														
JUL														
AUG														
SEP														
OCT														
NOV														
DEC														
TOTAL:														

* Lobster Not Sold includes any lobsters consumed or given away to family or friends



2005 SEASONAL LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES
251 CAUSEWAY STREET, SUITE 101, BOSTON, MA 02114-2153



CATCH REPORT DUE DATE: JANUARY 31, 2006

PRINT IN INK ONLY

PLEASE REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS ON BACK PAGE WHILE COMPLETING THIS LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

PLEASE PRINT IN INK ONLY

IDENTIFICATION:

DMF ID No: _____

Permit No: _____

Name as it appears
on permit application: _____

(Last)

(First)

(MI)

Address: _____

(No.)

(Street)

(City/Town)

(Zip Code)

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

CATCH STATUS:

A. If you **DID NOT CATCH** any lobster during 2005, check the box ☐ **AND sign your name and date the report at bottom of this page and return it to the Division.**

B. If you **DID CATCH** lobster during 2005, complete **BOTH SIDES** of this report as completely and accurately as possible. All lobster taken under this permit must be recorded on this report, even if taken incidentally

**** If you fished in conjunction with another permit holder in 2005, please report your catch and effort information separately ****

GEAR:

A) Circle one or more of the following gear types used to catch lobster: TRAPS/POTS DIVING GEAR TRAWL/DREDGES GILLNET

B) If you fished traps in 2005, estimate the average value of one trap including warp and buoy: \$ _____

C) Indicate the type of traps by completing the percent of total that were fished in 2005:

1. Wood Framed _____% 2. Wire Framed _____% 3. Other _____%

D) If you dove for lobster in 2005, estimate the value of your diving gear and the percent used for catching lobsters:

Estimated Value of Diving Gear: \$ _____ Percent Used for Catching Lobsters: _____%

PORT(S) OF LANDING:

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION WHETHER OR NOT YOU USED A BOAT TO LAND YOUR LOBSTER.

	<u>PORT NAME</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Indicate the port(s) where you landed your catch. If you landed your catch in more than one port, estimate the percent of lobster landed at each port listed.	1. _____	_____%
	2. _____	_____%
	3. _____	_____%

SIGNATURE: _____

Date: _____

Knowingly falsifying any information contained within this report constitutes the act of perjury and may result in a fine, imprisonment or loss of license (MGL, Chapter 130, Sections 2, 21, 33).

COMPLETE BACK OF THIS FORM IF YOU CAUGHT LOBSTER IN 2005

2005 SEASONAL LOBSTER CATCH REPORT

2

VESSELS:

THIS SECTION SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY VESSEL OWNER OR PRINCIPAL USER ONLY. BE SURE TO INCLUDE TENDERS USED.

Power (Y/N)	Boat Name	Length (ft)	Home Port	Estimated Dollar Value of Vessel	Percent Used for Lobstering

FUEL:

Total gallons of fuel used for the year to catch lobster: Gasoline: [] Diesel: []

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT:

Counting yourself, what was the maximum number of people fishing for lobster on your vessel at any one time in 2005? []

* For example, if you employed one sternman, you would answer two (2).

DEALERS SOLD TO:

Indicate the dealer(s) you sold your catch to. If you sold your catch to more than one dealer, estimate the percent of lobster sold to each dealer. If you sold lobsters retail, be sure to indicate yourself as a dealer.

	DEALER NAME	DEALER PERMIT #	PERCENT
1.	[]	[]	[] %
2.	[]	[]	[] %
3.	[]	[]	[] %
4.	[]	[]	[] %
5.	[]	[]	[] %

HARVEST TABLE:

***** IMPORTANT *****

REFER TO MAP OF STATISTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE TO COMPLETE THE AREA(S) FISHED PORTION OF HARVEST TABLE

DO NOT INDICATE LMA'S (Lobster Management Areas) IN AREA(S) FISHED IN TABLE BELOW

FILL IN SHADED AREA ONLY IF YOU USED TRAPS AS YOUR GEAR						REFER TO MAP OF STASTICAL REPORTING AREAS ON NEXT PAGE →→→→→								
	GEAR USED TO HARVEST LOBSTER	MAX TRAPS FISHING	SET OVER DAYS	AVERAGE TRAPS HAULED PER TRIP WHEN FISHING	TOTAL TRIPS WHEN TRAPS HAULED	POUNDS HARVESTED			FIRST AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	SECOND AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH	THIRD AREA FISHED	% OF CATCH
						LOBSTER SOLD	LOBSTER NOT SOLD*	CRABS						
EX.	TRAPS	25	2	12	20	90	12	0	5	75	7	25		
JUN														
JUL														
AUG														
SEP														
TOTAL:														

* Lobster Not Sold includes any lobsters consumed or given away to family or friends