



CAPE COD COMMERCIAL
**FISHERMEN'S
ALLIANCE**



MISSION

Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance is fishermen, community members, public officials, and scientists working together to build creative strategies, advocate for improved marine policies, protect the ocean ecosystem, and ensure the viability and future of Cape Cod's fisheries.

VISION

Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance is the voice of Cape Cod's fishing community, working to ensure our future livelihood within a balanced ocean ecosystem.

April 2023

Dear Friends,

Too much happened in 2022 to share everything. At the top of my mind is how all our work — from policy to education, management to science — involved you, up close and personal. I missed those interactions during the pandemic and we took advantage of opportunities to re-connect with our community in myriad ways.

We launched a new program *Small Boats, Big Science*, which brought preeminent ocean scientists to our office where they joined fishermen to talk about cutting-edge research with the broader community. We also happily set up the big white tent again for our 21st Hookers Ball, and all agreed it was *Aboat Time!* We visited selectboards across the Cape, highlighting the state's port profile study and the tremendous economic impact of commercial fishing. A return to in-person activities enabled us to welcome more groups to our office, hammer out a three-year strategic plan and visit our fishing partners across the nation.



For every \$100 invested in CCCFA's economic development programming in 2022, we produced \$3,000 of direct economic impact to the local fishing businesses.

We also expanded on what was good about the pandemic — strengthening local food systems, helping those who are food insecure and educating the community. Examples abound. We widened our circle of partners in our *Small Boats, Big Taste* program to include the Family Table Collaborative and grew our partnership with the Greater Boston Food Bank, which in 2022 provided 484,380 servings of Haddock Chowder and Provençal Fish Stew. We joined the Barnstable County Extension Service in a new program that sends our delicious, nutritious soups to service organizations across the Cape. Building off our successful virtual Meet the Fleets, we secured a grant to hire a professional team to record these fishermen and chef events, so the joy of cooking local seafood can be shared with a wider audience.

Our Fishermen Training Program matured, with a second, captain-level component being designed to augment crew training. We strengthened our relationship with Cape Cod Regional Technical High School and invited more students from the Marine Services program onto the docks to learn about commercial fishing. Thanks to Research Set Aside projects we managed, local scallopers were able to earn an additional \$1.7 million and our longstanding Cape Cod Fisheries Trust helped secure fishermen an extra \$1.2 million in revenue.

I encourage you to read more about the 2022 highlights inside this gratitude report. After all, your support makes our success possible, paying dividends back to our coastal community.

Smooth Seas,
John Pappalardo, CEO

2022 Financial Highlights

The Fishermen's Alliance is a nonprofit organization subject to chapter 501(c)(3) of the IRS.

The graphics represent a summary of the Fishermen's Alliance unaudited 2022 financial performance. Financial statements will be audited by Sanders, Walsh & Eaton LLP, certified public accountants.

The Fishermen's Alliance is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

REVENUE			\$2,620,756		
	\$12,609	0%	Other Capital Income		
	\$161,245	6%	Events		
	\$192,848	7%	Individual Gifts		
	\$244,307	9%	Fisheries Trust		
	\$352,293	13%	Small Boats, Big Taste		
	\$769,684	29%	Grants		
	\$887,770	34%			

EXPENSE			\$2,575,879		
	\$101,726	4%	Economic Development		
	\$107,307	4%	Events		
	\$300,015	12%	Administrative		
	\$349,275	14%	Fundraising		
	\$374,170	15%	Capital Payments		
	\$636,487	25%	Policy & Programs		
	\$706,899	27%	Small Boats, Big Taste		

Excess 2022 revenue is restricted by the Board of Directors for debt repayment or investment in the Cape Cod Fisheries Trust.

Leadership for Fisheries Management

In 2022, Fishermen's Alliance staff spent nearly 300 days at regulatory meetings and webinars, bringing fishermen's knowledge and experience to the decision-making tables and taking part in state and federal fisheries management efforts that span the entire east coast. Our time navigating sensible policies and regulatory bureaucracy allows the fishermen to spend their valuable time on the water.

Certain meetings require fishermen's participation, and we provide support so they are as effective as possible. In 2022, our fishermen members were on several federal advisory panels, including scallop and skate, as well as the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team and Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Team.



FISHERIES POLICY VICTORIES

- After NOAA Fisheries did not appeal the Court order that removed the Inshore Midwater Trawl Restricted Area, we convinced the Council to revisit herring protections and it is a Council priority for 2023.
- John continued to chair the New England Fishery Management Council's Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management Committee, which released a draft fishery ecosystem plan for Georges Bank and held a series of public workshops across the region to prepare for 2023 discussions and public comment periods.
- We participated in the Atlantic Climate Change Scenario Workshops, to ensure that Cape Cod fishermen's concerns and needs were included.
- John worked with other Council members to reconsider catastrophic proposed quota cuts for monkfish. The cuts will now be phased in, hopefully providing time to revisit the underlying science. The stock assessment relies on how many monkfish are landed, so the low landings due to COVID restrictions make it look like monkfish are in trouble.
- We prevented a change in Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) standards that would exclude dogfish from being MSC certified, which would effectively tank the export market and make the fishery unprofitable. Thanks to our efforts, dogfish remains eligible to be certified under the MSC program. MSC told us: *"The thoughtful and substantive input about the spiny dogfish fishery submitted during the consultation period was incredibly valuable in helping MSC arrive at this approach."*

We re-instated our Fisheries Leadership Internship Program for graduate students studying fisheries management. **Rachel Barrales** from Duke University was our 2022 intern. Rachel is seen here weir fishing in Nantucket Sound.



Community Outreach

We bring fishermen and the community together to promote local catch, build appreciation for fishing traditions, and engage the next generation.

SMALL BOATS. BIG SCIENCE.

This new educational series brings together our community, scientists, and fishermen to discuss the latest research and how it relates to our fleet, our environment, and our coastal communities. We hosted two talks, which focused on climate change and extreme weather events, and marine ecosystems. Videos of these talks are available on our website.



MEET THE FLEET

For more than a decade these unique events have been bringing together the community, fishermen and chefs for an educational seafood experience. In 2022 we held four events and more than 300 guests learned about hake, conch, Jonah crab, oysters, aquaculture, and sustainable seafood. They deepened their appreciation for the effort it takes to have delicious local seafood on their plates — from catching it to cooking it. We were inspired by our guest speakers Stephen Wright and Farran Jalbert from Chatham Shellfish Co., Paul Wittenstein from A.R.C. Shellfish Hatchery, and fishermen Kurt Martin, Bill Amaru, Andrew Spalt, Stephanie Sykes, Ken Baughman, Tracy Sylvester, Jesse Redmund and Mike Anderson. We had delicious recipes prepared by the chef and owners of The Rail restaurant, Tyler and Cam Hadfield, Pizza Shark, Chef Lisa Whelan of Dancing Spoons Chef Services, and Wooden Island Wild. We are grateful to our hosts who provided ideal locations — The Chatham Orpheum, The Fisherman's Pantry, and Nauset Marine. A big thank you to Quahog Republic for beverages, Chatham Bars Inn for appetizers, and to the exclusive Meet the Fleet sponsor, Gibson Sotheby's International Realty.

PIER HOST PROGRAM

It was another successful summer with thousands of visitors to the Chatham Fish Pier leaving with big smiles, a newfound appreciation for fishing, and our Coastal Learning Book in hand. Pier Hosts have been sharing their vast knowledge of the local marine life and fishing industry for 16 years as part of this popular education and outreach program. A big thanks to the retired fishermen serving as Pier Hosts: Mike Anderson, Ken Eldredge, and Rick Miszkin.

CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS OF STORIES

2022 marked our fifth year of providing a free monthly e-magazine, connecting 4,500 subscribers to the Cape's fishing traditions, both historical and contemporary. All of the articles are archived online; enjoy them at: <https://www.capecodfishermen.org/media/monthly-emagazine/>



Economic Development

We invest in fisheries to provide opportunities for today's fishermen and future generations.

CAPE COD FISHERIES TRUST

The Trust holds and manages scallop and groundfish permits, maintaining these critical fishing rights for the local community. Local fishermen can lease quota from the Trust at discounted rates and invest these savings in strengthening their businesses.

2022 Highlights

- **88,630 pounds** of discounted groundfish quota leased
- **78,370 pounds** of discounted scallop quota leased
- **21 fishing businesses** supported
- **38 Days at Sea** leased
- **\$1.23 million in extra revenue** to fishermen (landing value minus lease fees)

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF FISHERMAN

After extensive community engagement, meetings, and surveys, we collaborated with MIT Sea Grant to develop a comprehensive training framework for expanding and strengthening our Fishermen Training Program. The resulting report will also help other fishing communities around the country build their own programs. We continued to support previous graduates, but our focus in 2022 was on high school students — over a dozen Cape Tech students participated in the Fishermen Training Program workshops. And we donated a boat to Cape Tech, to help train the next generation of marine engine and boat repair technicians! Staff participated in the Cape Cod Young Professionals Shape Your Cape Summit Blue Economy Panel, to develop interest in fishing careers.





SMALL BOATS, BIG TASTE PROGRAM

A tomato-based, dairy-free fish stew made with local skate came online in early 2022, celebrating one of the most abundant local species and diversifying our menu. By the end of the year, we had provided nearly 1.4 million servings of Haddock Chowder and Provençal Fish Stew to regional food banks and community programs since July 2020. In 2022, Small Boats, Big Taste provided \$915,000 in economic impact to fishermen, the processing/manufacturing supply chain, and donated or subsidized product. As we transition away from philanthropic support, we began to fund the program by selling wholesale through our partner Chatham Fish & Lobster. Thanks to the state's Food Security Infrastructure Grant, we installed a freezer in the basement and can sell the chowder and stew directly to the public.

WORKING WATERFRONTS

Fishing ports are a critical connection between fishing and seafood on your plate. Our Communications Officer, Doreen, along with fishermen and our board members, met with the selectboards on Cape, sharing the state's *Port by Port: Profiles and Analysis of the Massachusetts Commercial Fishery* report, and discussing how valuable commercial fishing is to each town. Town leaders were appreciative and responsive, commenting on how eye-opening the report was and pledging support for port infrastructure projects.

"For kids growing up here it is so heartening to hear of something we're trying to nurture. It is a real priority for us, concentrating on small boat fishing and making a thriving industry. It's really important for a myriad of reasons, none the least is there is something legitimate to work in and stay in the community," said Harwich Selectman Howell.



SCALLOP RESEARCH SET-ASIDE

Research is not usually under economic development, but in this case, local research projects by Fishermen's Alliance and our partner Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution resulted in 145,000 extra pounds of scallop being landed by the Cape Cod scallop fleet in 2022, bringing \$1.775 million in extra revenue to the fishermen (landings after RSA lease fees). The lease fees fund the research and we are piloting a new way for fishermen to collect data on scallop growth and reproduction to track changes resulting from warming waters.

RESEARCH

Remember when the local fishermen helped collect hundreds of halibut samples before COVID? The results have finally been peer-reviewed and published in the *Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Research*, the first step in having the data be used in fisheries management decisions.

We were pleased to serve as fiscal sponsor for a Massachusetts Technology Collaborative grant to the region's long running eMOLT Program, bringing \$184,000 in capital to develop new dissolved oxygen sensors, outfit 12 Massachusetts fishing vessels with environmental sensors, and build an online dashboard for the fishermen to use their data. Fishermen love eMOLT because they get real time bottom temperatures to help them make fishing decisions and scientists love having a novel data set from the full water column.



Fundraising Highlights

Support from donors keeps our mission-driven programs effective. And we try to have a little fun along the way.

HOOKERS BALL

We were thrilled to welcome back 400 guests under the big white tent for our largest annual event, which celebrates the Cape's local fishing industries and heritage. A heartfelt thank you to all who attended and participated in the live and silent auctions and fund-a-need, and to our volunteers and sponsors. With your generosity we raised more than \$280,000!



FALMOUTH ROAD RACE

We were proud to be back for the fifth consecutive year and one of 184 organizations participating in this iconic race as part of the Number for Non-Profits program. A huge congratulations and thank you to the dedicated #fishrunfalmouth runners: Cristi Altman, Ken Baughman, Alex Corcoran, Cordy Elkins, Monica Heuer, Brigid Krug, Carol Mackenzie, Kathryn Mandalakis, Heather Morin, Molly Ogren, Brendon Parker, Corey Sherman, Stephanie Sykes and Brian Tobin. We are so appreciative of everyone's fundraising efforts with the team collectively raising \$16,600!



SHOP TO SUPPORT

It takes a village! We are grateful for partnerships with local businesses that host fundraisers for us or co-brand their products to support our shared mission. We encourage you to shop local and check out these supporters for some tasty treats and unique wares.



Cottage organized Cods for the Cape, a one-of-a-kind art auction, where 12 local artists created unique artworks and all proceeds benefited Fishermen's Alliance.



Chatham Candy Manor included us as one of the non-profits supported by their fudge fundraiser program.



Quahog Republic co-brands their Golden Ale and Bloody Mary and Margarita Mix. You can spot the Fishermen's Alliance fish logo on their products at liquor and grocery stores across the Cape.



Outstanding Partners and Supporters

The following individuals, foundations, businesses, organizations, and collaborators supported the Fishermen's Alliance in 2022.

We acknowledge and greatly appreciate those whose gifts help to uphold the heritage of commercial fishing, protect our ecosystem, and create a better future for Cape Cod.

THE HIGHLINER SOCIETY

Honoring our most instrumental supporters who have a lifetime cumulative giving history of \$100,000 or more.

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+Member of The Fishermen Friends Society, a monthly giving program with automatic, recurring contributions.

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Small Boats. Big Ideas.



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FISHERMEN'S ALLIANCE**

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