

**2012 ROCKWEED (*Ascophyllum nodosum*)
HARVEST PLAN
FOR COBSCOOK BAY
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE**

Submitted to:

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
Augusta, Maine**

Submitted by:

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Introduction

In accordance with Sec. 1. MRSA § 6802 8., I, James Young, submit this harvest plan for the purpose of identifying my objectives and methods for the harvest of rockweed (*Ascophyllum nodosum*) in Cobscook Bay for the year of 2012.

Biomass Assessment

In 2012, I plan to harvest 17% or less of the total harvestable biomass from the sectors allotted to me, as allowed by Sec. 1. MRSA § 6802 10.

The annual harvestable biomass for the sectors in which I will conduct our harvesting operations was determined using information supplied to us by Seth Barker of the Maine department of Marine Resources. Seth Barker, using satellite imagery, was able to calculate, in square meters, the total area of the rockweed beds in each sector. These numbers were then revised to exclude all the conservation area designated as “no harvest” zones. I then took the revised square meter numbers, converted them to square footage, and calculated the total harvestable biomass in each sector using a figure of 2.1 pounds of rockweed per square foot. A figure of 2.1 pounds per square foot was determined through ground-truthing samples taken throughout 2011. The annual harvestable biomass figures were then determined by multiplying the total harvestable biomass by the 17% per year allowable harvest.

Harvest Areas and Quantities

I plan to harvest a total of 1273 short tons of rockweed. This number represents 17% of the total harvestable biomass in each of my allotted sectors. The sectors I am looking to harvest in 2012 are A-19 in Bar Harbour, as well as A-20 and A-21 in East Bay.

A list of the sectors that I will be harvesting and their individual annual harvestable biomass figures can be found in Attachment A. A map of these sectors can be found in Attachment B.

Harvest Records and Audit Trail

As the owner/operator of my harvesting boat, I will keep daily records of harvested rockweed in regards to tonnage, sector, and to whom the rockweed is sold. Further, records of my harvest will be reported to the Maine Department of Marine Resources by monthly landings reports.

Methods of Harvest

I plan to harvest rockweed in Cobscook Bay using a Maine designed, and built, mechanical cutter on my harvest boat. Mechanical cutters of this kind have been used effectively in Maine for over twelve years.

Bycatch Management

I will return all visible by-catch to the waters of Cobscook Bay as soon as practicable.

Random sampling will be done upon landing of the rockweed. Samples will be looked at for the presence of animal and plant species. Records of bycatch observed will be kept by me.

Harvester Training

All harvesters that will work on my boat, whether myself or another licensed harvester, will be educated in the areas of cutting regulations and techniques, sector recognition, by-catch avoidance, and reporting requirements.

Harvesters, on my boat, who do not abide by the regulations set forth by the Department of Marine Resources, or the guidelines set forth by North American Kelp, will be terminated.

Attachment A

James Young
2012 Cobscook Bay Harvest Plan
Sector Breakdown

AREA	SECTOR #	TOTAL BIOMASS MINUS CONSERVATION	AVAILABLE BIOMASS (17%)	2012 PLANNED HARVEST
Bar Harbour	A-19	1754	298	298
		1754	298	298
East Bay	A-20	2017	343	343
		A-21	3720	632
	5737	975	975	
	TOTALS	7491	1273	1273

Attachment B

JAMES YOUNG HARVEST SECTORS 2012

