

North American Kelp - Cobscook Bay Harvest Plan 2009

From Public Law 2009, Chapter 283:

“Annual harvest plan. An annual harvest plan must include, but is not limited to, the following:

- A. The name and telephone number of the person or entity responsible for the harvest management sector;
- B. Identification of harvest management sectors proposed for harvest;
- C. Total rockweed biomass contained in the harvest management sector based on a survey conducted within the previous 3 years;
- D. The biomass amount proposed to be harvested;
- E. A description of the methods of harvest;
- F. A description of how marine organisms harvested with the rockweed will be managed; and
- G. A description of harvester training.”

From North American Kelp 6/2009:

- A. George Harris Jr.
13 Old Redoubt Road
Eastport, ME 04631
(207) 214-8783
- B. See attached chart for sectors that will be harvested. Sectors will be harvested according to sector boundaries as shown on the attached charts (with both C-map digital representation and standard nautical charts).
- C. Sectors A-1 through 5, A-13 through 19, A-25 and A-28 of map shown at following link: <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rm/rockweed/cobsbay/sectordivmap.pdf>
- D. 17% of the rockweed biomass that remains in each sector after the biomass contained in areas designated as conserved lands has been subtracted from the total biomass.
- E. 1. Maine designed cutting blade on a hand rake, used effectively in Maine for over twenty years.

2. Maine designed, and built, mechanical cutters on harvest boats, used effectively in Maine for over twelve years.
- F. All visible by-catch will be returned to the Cobscook Bay as soon as practicable.

G. All new harvesters will be trained by an experienced harvester in the areas of cutting regulations and techniques, sector recognition, by-catch avoidance, and reporting requirements.

DMR NOTE: As a condition of this approval, the Department of Marine Resources is requesting that North American Kelp **postpone harvest off three seabird nesting islands until July 31** when the young birds will have fledged. The islands are **Burial Island in Sector A13** and **Goose Island and Spectacle Island in Sector A-16**. It is DMR's hope that doing so now on a voluntary basis will help avoid a complete closure in the future. The Department is making a similar request of Acadian Seaplants Limited. Any questions about this may be directed to John Sowles at 633-9518.