Department of Marine Resources

Statement from Commissioner Keliher on Today's Announcement of $20 Million for Maine's Fishing and Seafood Industry

We appreciate the work of Senator Collins and the other members of Maine's Congressional to ensure that Maine's fishing and seafood industry receives this much-needed funding. The Department will be working to develop a plan to distribute these funds as soon as we have additional guidance from NOAA. Maine has nearly 18,000 licensed fishermen, dealers, processors, aquaculture operators, and fishing charter businesses, as well as thousands of additional related workers who have all been impacted by market loss as a result of COVID-19. While this funding is a welcome step forward, additional funding will be necessary to more fully mitigate the losses facing our $1.5 billion seafood industry here in Maine, and the Department will continue to work closely with the Congressional Delegation to press for that additional Federal relief.

Patrick Keliher Commissioner Maine Department of Marine Resources

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