

Strategies for diversifying Maine's softshell clam fishery in response to climate change

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Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans

Washington, D.C.

June 6, 2018

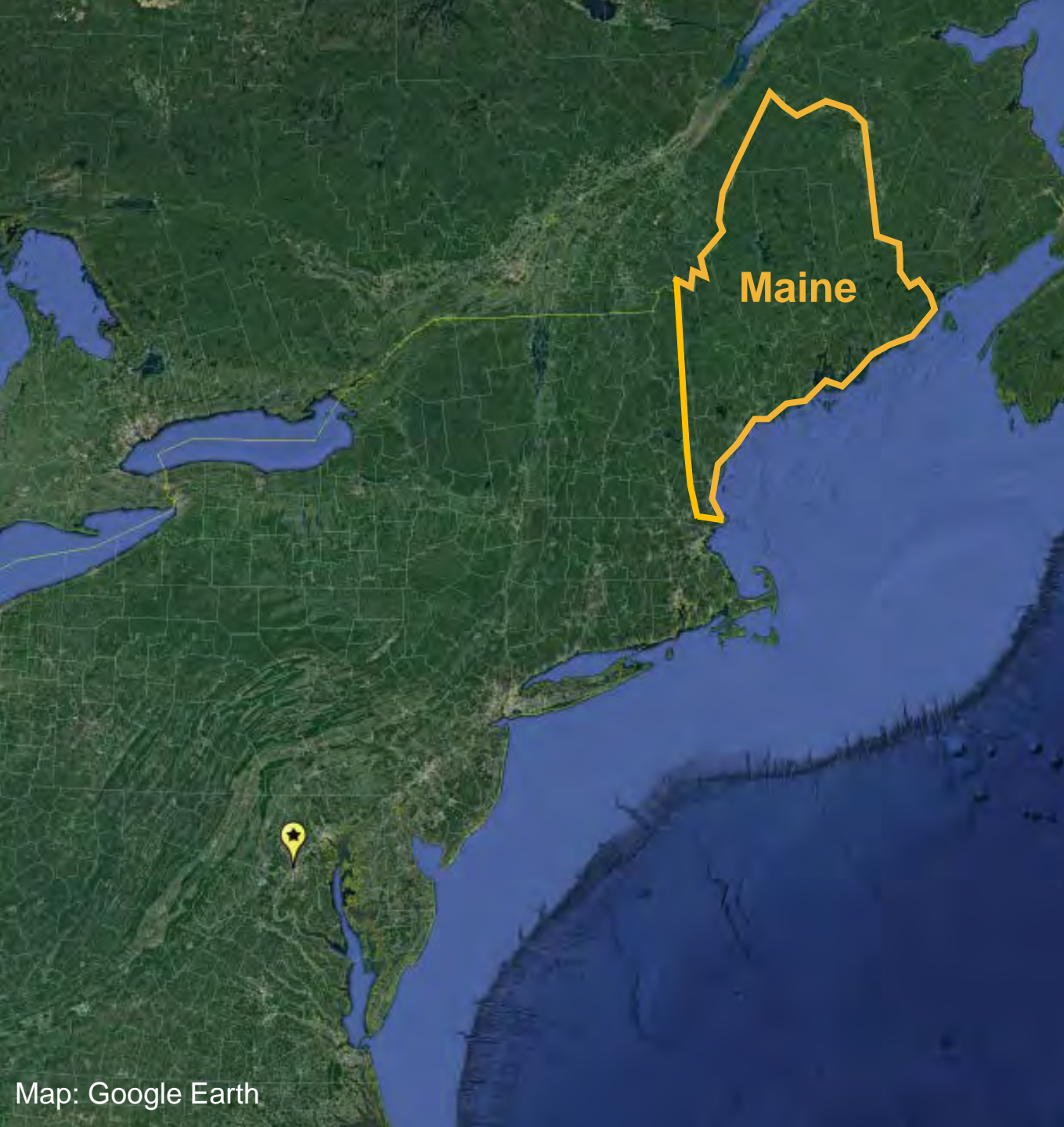


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Our Mission

Applying science and engaging people to sustain our world.



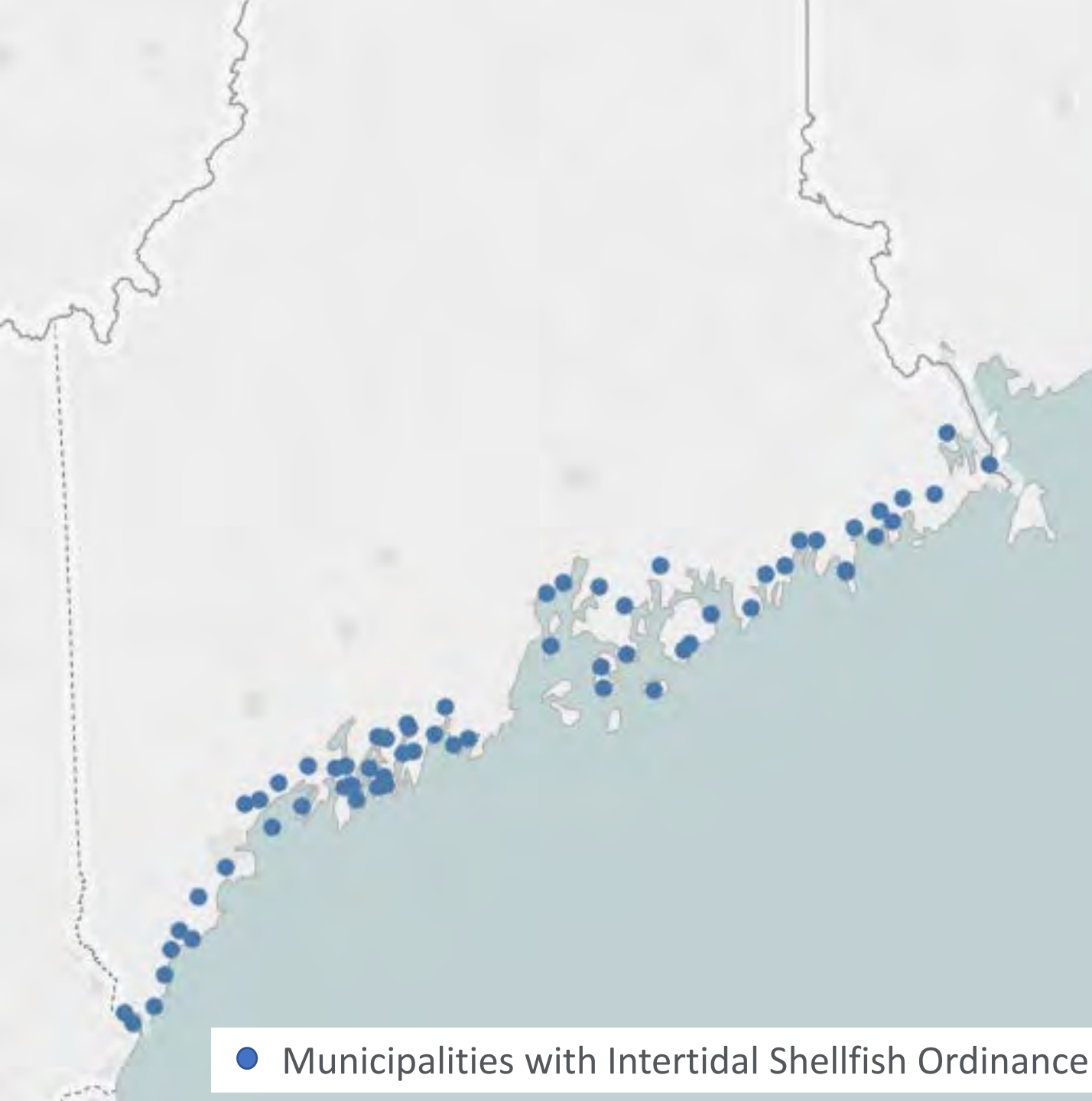
Map: Google Earth





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Réseau de Suivi de la Biodiversité Aquatique

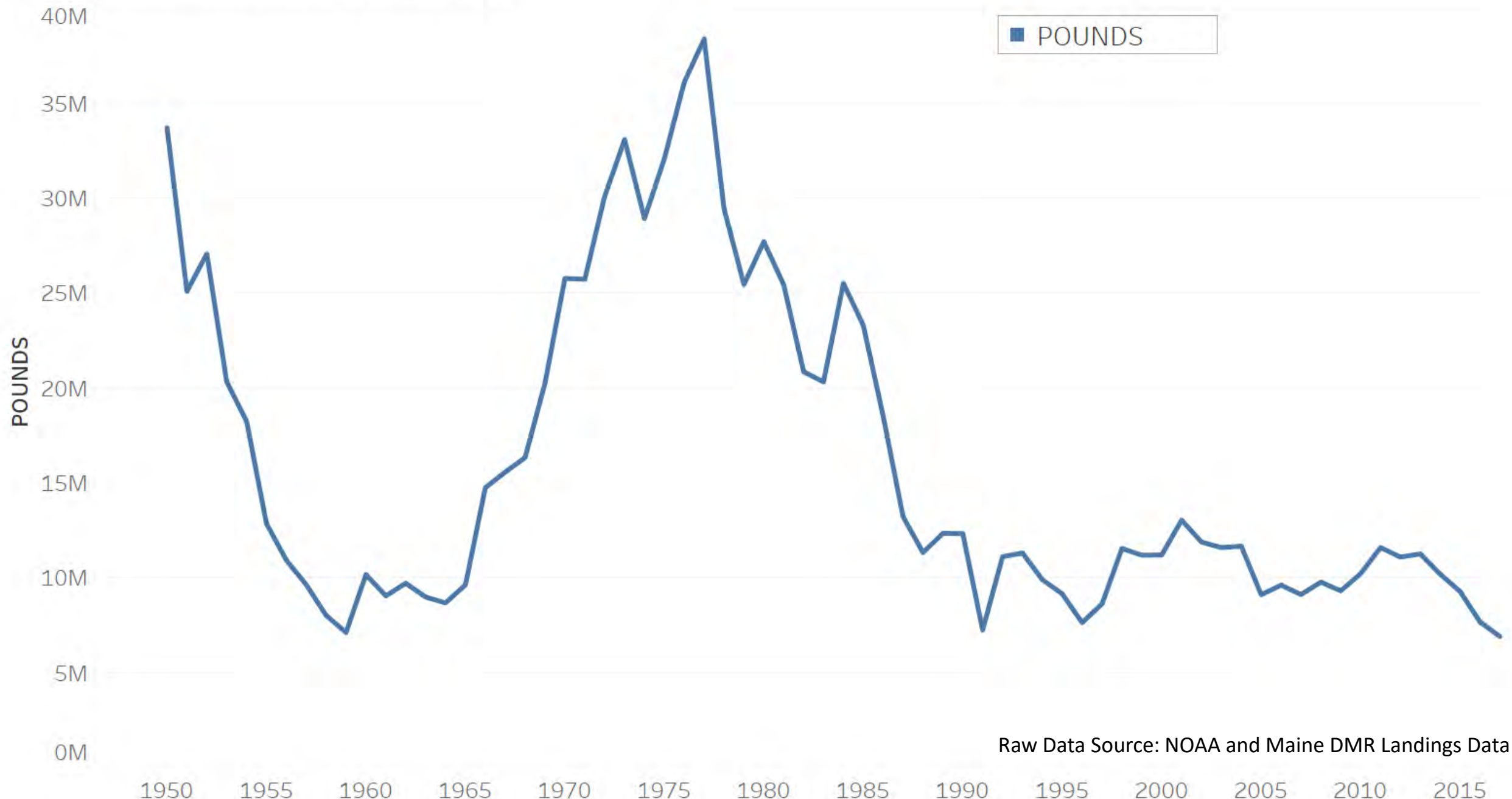




Governance

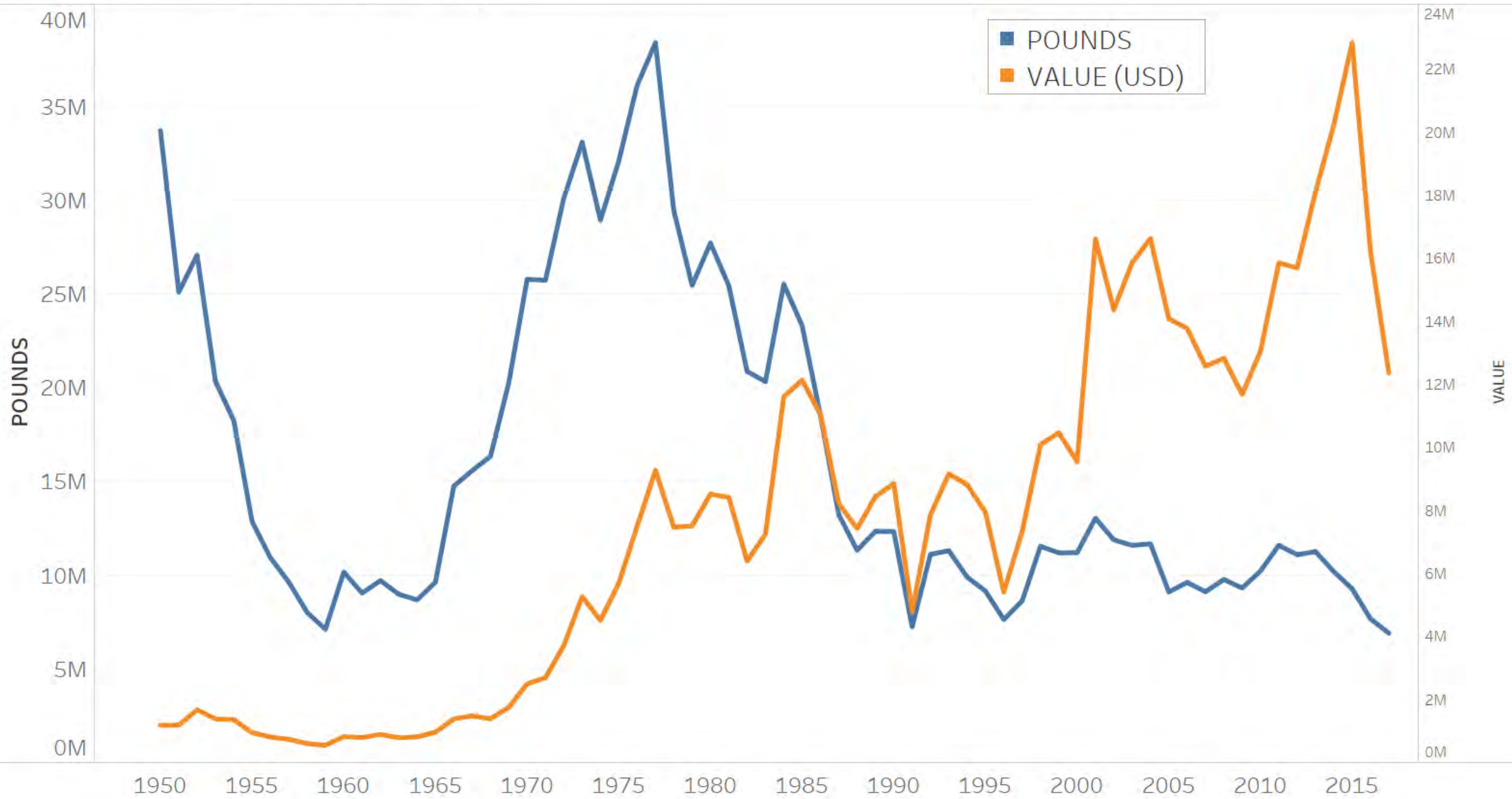
- Co-managed fishery: local and state oversight
- Licenses issued by a municipality
- Residents given preference

Maine Soft-shell Clam Landings (1950-2017)



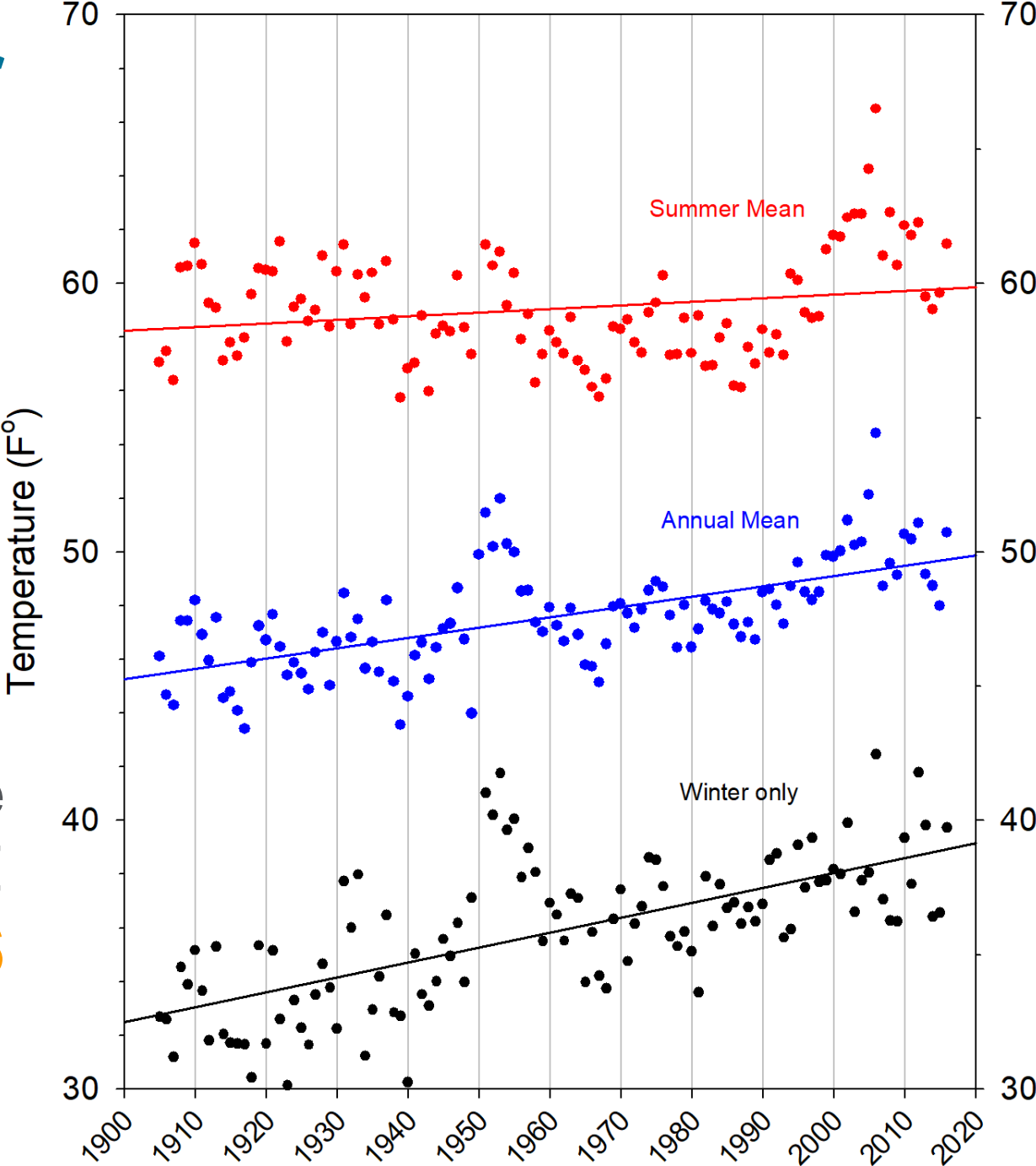
Raw Data Source: NOAA and Maine DMR Landings Data

Maine Soft-shell Clam Landings (1950-2017)



Threat: Increasing Water Temperature

Sea-surface Temperature
Boothbay Harbor, ME
1905-2016



Raw Data Source: <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/science-research/weather-tides/bbhenv.html>

Threat: Predators



Green Crabs
(*Carcinus maenas*)



Threat: Predators



Photo: Brian Beal

Milky Ribbon Worm
(*Cerebratulus lacteus*)

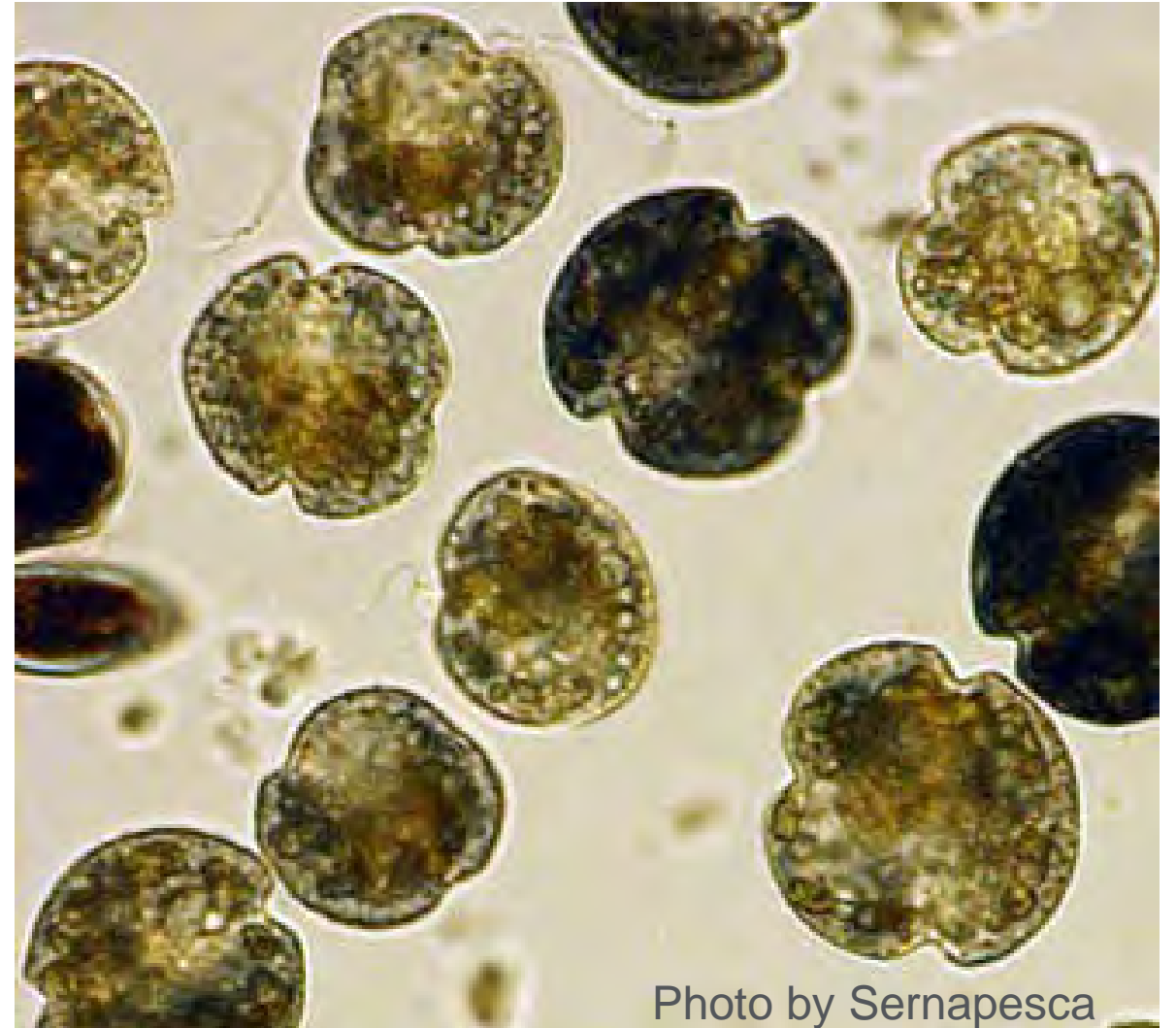


Threat: Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)

Pseudo-nitzschia australis



Karenia mikimotoi

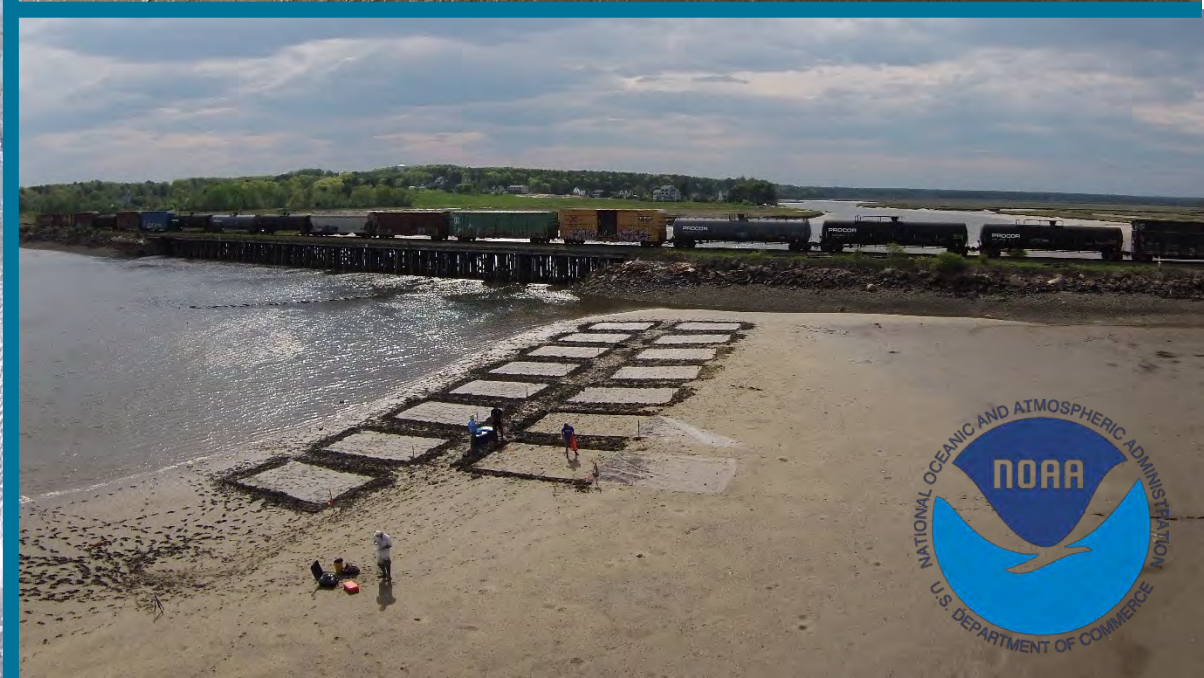
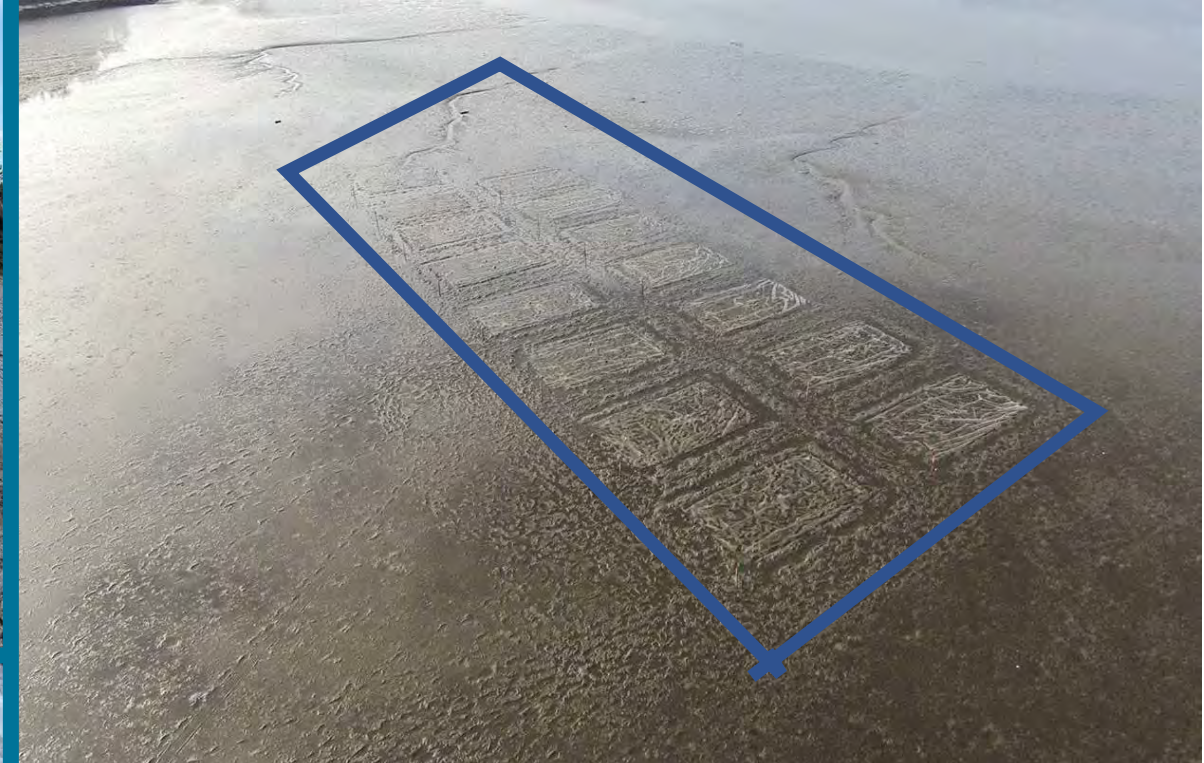


Strategy 1: Soft-shell clam aquaculture





Heal Eddy, Georgetown



Strategy 2: Embrace Quahogs (*Mercenaria mercenaria*)



Quahog

Soft-shell

Transplanting Quahogs: Georgetown (Spring 2018)



Strategy 3: Develop A Green Crab Fishery



Photo: Jonathon Taggart



Photo: Jonathon Taggart



Photo: Red's Best



Summit Attendees:

- Harvesters/Fishers
- Chefs
- Scientists
- Seafood Distributors
- Community Members
- Resource Managers
- Students



