

The Zone C Hatchery in Stonington came about because fishermen worked together.



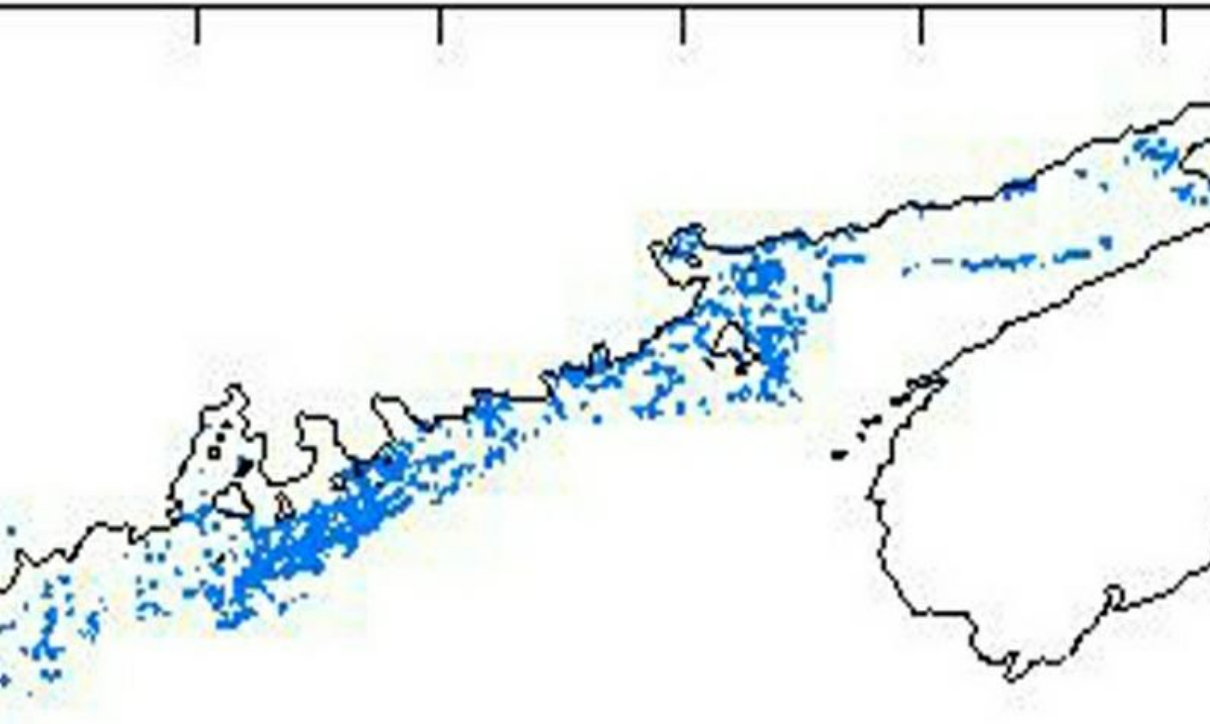
The hatchery was not designed to turn lobster fishing into a put-and-take fishery...



...But instead, aims to re-stock areas that have recently become depleted.

THE RATIONALE: Since wind, tide, and current seriously affect where larval and juvenile lobsters arrive at an area...

larval stage-4 on 8/31





- Lobstermen observed that unless wind and tide were favorable, certain places received no young lobsters!

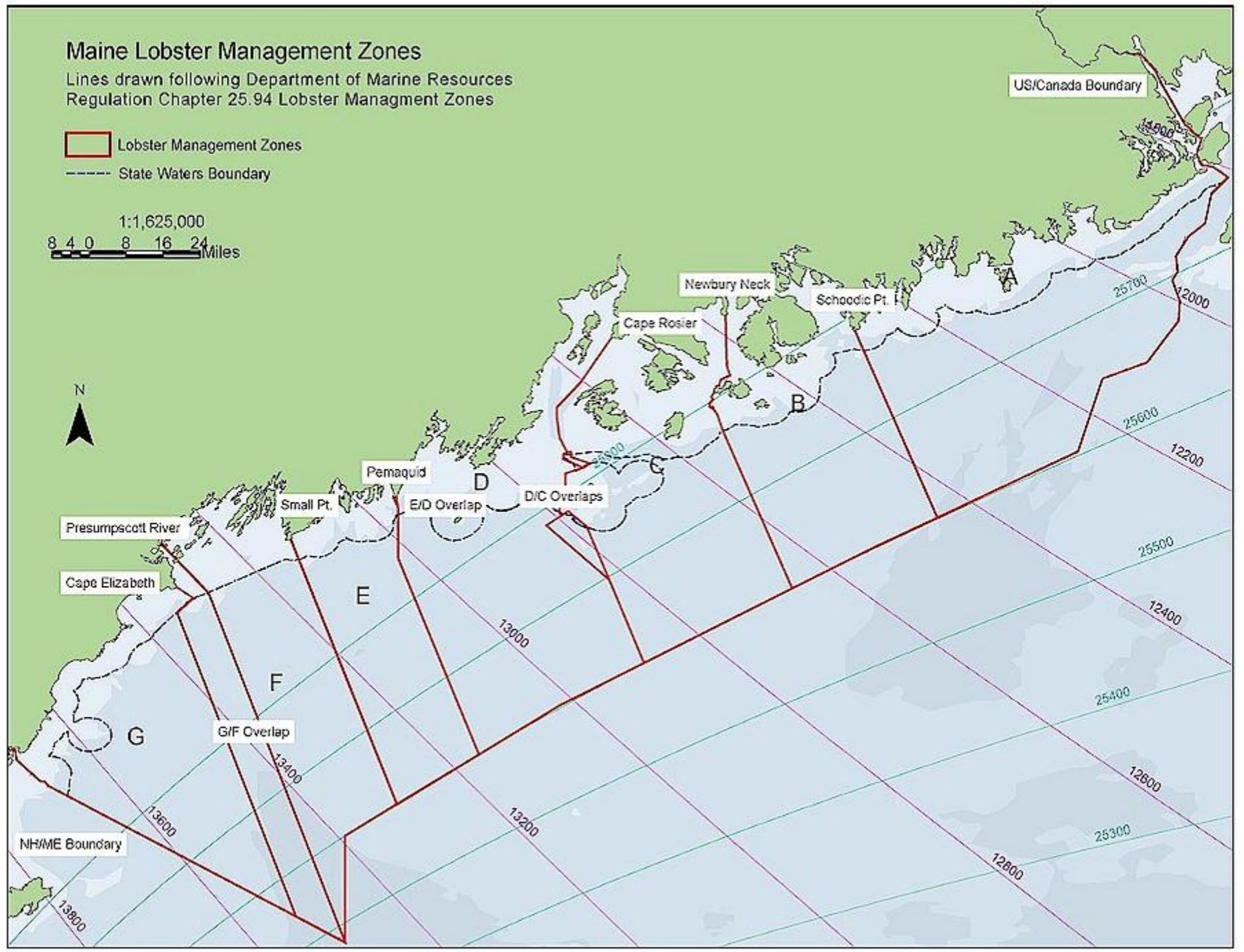
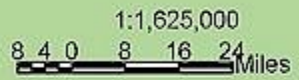
To correct the deficiency,

- Zone C lobstermen decided to restock areas recently depleted with juveniles from a hatchery.
- They decided to build a hatchery. The Stonington Co-op donated part of a building and PERC agreed to build and run it.

Maine Lobster Management Zones

Lines drawn following Department of Marine Resources
Regulation Chapter 25.94 Lobster Management Zones

-  Lobster Management Zones
-  State Waters Boundary



Zone C Council said...We'll do it ourselves....

And so, after a few years of organizing, we started a fund drive...

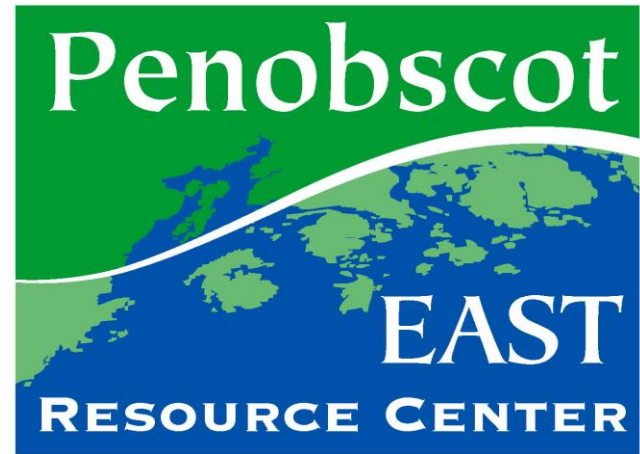
...and raised \$27,000!

Who's "we"

- Stonington Lobster Co-op
- Stonington Fisheries Alliance
- Zone C Lobster Council

- Joined by many other groups, businesses, and co-ops.

Making it happen:



*Making a future for our
fishing communities*

- Technical person – Ted Ames
- Steering Committee -- 12 fishermen and community members
- Penobscot East staff -- bookkeeping, fundraising, calling meetings
- Volunteer science advisory group

So, where did the money come from?

- Zone C fishermen
Most who gave, gave \$100



- Community suppers with Dick Bridges' fish chowder

And from.....

- Towns
 - Stonington \$5000
 - North Haven \$500
- Golf tournament run by lobster dealer
- Donations from banks, businesses, and vendors



Penobscot East's other fundraising

- \$25,000 matching grant from Tides Foundation
- \$30,000 from operating funds from varied foundations

One lesson...

It's not just about the lobsters.....

We have already gained so much, just from the hope and the connections we have made by building and planning the hatchery together...

The Stonington Lobster Co-op's donated building for the hatchery.



It needed a little work to get it up to snuff.



But with lots of help,
things started coming
together.



Here's the clean room, used for starting algal cultures in a sterile environment.



Conical tanks are used for growing brine shrimp. The lighted area behind is the algae grow-out room.



An inside view of the algae grow-out room.





Brine shrimp tanks and algae grow-out room.



Lobster larvae tanks

Hatchery Production

- The hatchery is expected to produce 150,000 juveniles per year for Zone C fishermen.

LOBSTER DISTRIBUTION

Equal numbers of stage 4 juvenile lobsters will be distributed to each district in Zone C.

- Staff will meet with fishermen from each district.
- Fishermen will ID where in their district they feel lobsters are needed and will help find good juvenile habitats nearby.
- Fishermen from each district will assist in the release of the juvenile lobsters.

Zone C working together for a better future.

