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# Our Beautiful Bay

## Frenchman Bay Partners

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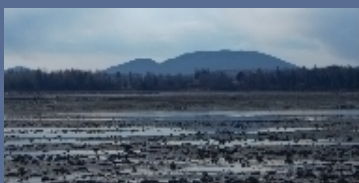
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**Join FBP Today!**

### CONSERVATION TARGETS



Eelgrass



Mudflats



## FBP Steering Committee Meets to Discuss Rockweed

It's something everyone's talking about, and Frenchman Bay Partners is no exception. Rockweed, or *Ascophyllum nodosum*, is a seaweed that grows in the intertidal. According to a [rockweed fact sheet](#) published by the Maine Sea Grant, rockweed is a valuable resource. It is harvested for use in food, fertilizer, soil conditioners, animal feed, and other products. Coastal Maine began seeing commercial-scale harvesting in the 1970s; rockweed management has been a discussion ever since. [Read more.](#)



Rockweed, or *Ascophyllum nodosum*, is a seaweed that grows in the intertidal. It is present up and down the coast of Maine.

## Municipal Matters

Many Frenchman Bay Partners, in addition to serving on FBP committees, serve on municipal committees (planning boards, the Hancock County Planning Commission, the Bar Harbor Shellfish

## Diadromous Fish



## Subtidal and Benthic Habitats



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Committee, the Frenchman Bay Regional Shellfish Committee, the Lamoine Conservation Commission, and more). Participation on town committees is a great way to help create bridges between partners and what's going on in our towns. If you're not already involved, but want to be, contact your local municipal office or check out its website and see how you can submit an application for a town committee.

## Frenchman Bay Partners Hold Annual Meeting

The Gates Center at College of the Atlantic (COA) was abuzz with 40 Partners and COA students on May 2nd at the Frenchman Bay Partners Annual Meeting. The third annual meeting was organized around a series of Flash Talks, each followed by breakout sessions modeled on the World Cafe, a model that structures conversations around specific questions. Eight speakers presented on a variety of topics relating to successes of the Frenchman Bay Partners and emerging opportunities. [Read more!](#)



Frenchman Bay Partners participate in a World Cafe breakout session.

# HCPC has Grant Funds for Environmental Site Assessments

The Hancock County Planning Commission (HCPC) has received a \$400,000 grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program. The grant is intended to spur re-use of sites where there is potential contamination. HCPC has used the grant funds to hire an environmental consultant to conduct site investigations. [Read more.](#)

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## Ecosystem Services Value Across the Bay

Ecosystem services are benefits that people derive from the natural world, and the Frenchman Bay Partners has been engaging community members in conversations about the benefits we all derive from our connections to Frenchman Bay. Identifying and prioritizing these attributes can inform management decisions. Participants have also been engaged in helping create a computer-based Ecosystem Services Value (ESValue) decision support tool for Frenchman Bay. [Read more.](#)



Participants at the Ecosystem Services Value Decision Support Tool meeting at Chipper's Restaurant in Hancock.

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# Conservation Target Updates

## Diadromous Fishes

- Downeast Maine had a pretty good alewife run this year.
- The run at Flanders Stream lasted from mid-May to late-June.
- The estimated run size for Flanders Stream, based on volunteer counts, was ~21,290 in 2015, up from ~15,300 in 2013. [Click here](#) for the full report.

## Eelgrass

- The Community Environmental Health Lab trialed a new restoration method this year: ceramic disks, made by the Ceramic Engineering Department at Alfred University.
- Two restorations were completed this year, and eelgrass is coming up in restored areas around Upper Frenchman Bay.
- The Community Environmental Health Laboratory (CEHL) at MDI Biological Laboratory repeated a week-long green crab trapping study to compare green crab numbers in Frenchman Bay in 2014 and 2015. The numbers have remained constant over this two year period.
- Megan Hooper, a summer intern at CEHL, researched carbon stock in eelgrass beds around Mt. Desert Island, and found that areas with more eelgrass had higher carbon levels in the sediment than areas with less eelgrass. .

## Mudflats

- Approximately 70 acres of clamflats were opened in Kilkenny Cove. The area had been closed since 1987.
- The [Mill Brook area in Taunton Bay](#) has reopened due to the removal of a known pollution source.
- The clamflat [area west of the Trenton Airport seaplane ramp](#) has been closed due to fecal contamination.
- College of the Atlantic began shell addition experiments on clamflats at Hadley Point in May 2015 to study pH, recruitment, and adult density.



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## Upcoming Events

November 10, 2015

The Lamoine Conservation Commission is sponsoring a public presentation by UMaine's George Jacobson on climate change at the Lamoine school at 7 PM. The title of his talk is "Long Term Climate Dynamics Provide Surprising Clues to Maine's Future".

*For more information about Partner events, check out the [events page](#) on the website.*

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