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Norman Olsen
Commissioner
Maine Department of Marine Resources
21 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

March 01, 2011

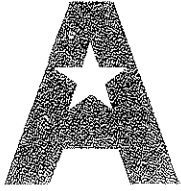
Commissioner Olsen:

Please find enclosed, Acadian Seaplants Limited's proposed 2011 Harvest Plan for Cobscook Bay, State of Maine. We are applying for the following sectors; A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, A-5, A-16, A-19, A-20, A-21 for a total of nine sectors with 1,149 short tons of available harvestable biomass.

Acadian Seaplants Limited's record of past harvests demonstrates that we have the capability and equipment necessary to harvest 17% of the biomass assessment in the proposed sectors and that we were the only organization that conducted a harvest in Cobscook Bay in 2010.

Sincerely,

Dennis Bryant,
Director of Maine Rockweed Operations
Acadian Seaplants Limited



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**2011 ROCKWEED (*Ascophyllum nodosum*)
HARVEST PLAN
FOR COBSCOOK BAY, MAINE**

**Submitted to:
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
Government of the State of Maine
Augusta, Maine**

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Submitted by:

**ACADIAN SEAPLANTS LIMITED (ASL)
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March 01, 2011

Proposed Harvest Sectors for Cobscook Bay 2011

Area	Sector	Total Harvestable Biomass (Short tons)	Budget 2011 (Short tons)
Johnson Bay	A-1	539	34
	A-2	626	100
	A-3	434	70
	A-4	1482	120
	A-5	469	40
		3,550	364
Bar Harbour	A-16	1404	180
	A-19	894	130
		2,298	310
East Bay	A-20	1609	273
	A-21	1767	202
		3,376	475
Grand Total		9,224	1,149

Rockweed Fishery - Harvest Method

The harvest of Rockweed in Maine will be conducted from small boats utilizing unique cutter rakes, designed by the company specifically for the Rockweed harvest.

This traditional harvest method has proven to be efficient and sustainable with minimal disturbance to the habitat and influence on associated species.

By nature, this process ensures a low harvest rate and leaves more than ample canopy for intertidal species, allows for rapid regeneration of harvested plants and suppressed shoots, and minimizes the disturbance of the habitat architecture.

Harvest Areas and Harvest Quantities

During the 2011 season, harvesting will be carried out in select sectors within Cobscook Bay. The total projected harvest will be 1,149 short tons. All of the harvesting sectors will be harvested at 17% or less of their total harvestable biomass. Control of the daily harvested amount for each sector is recorded as per Acadian Seaplants Limited (ASL's) sector landing reporting process.

The harvest will be achieved by recruiting a sufficient number of local harvesters operating for up to 20 weeks from June to the end of September.

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Our plan involves harvesters using mobile bagging platforms as boat unloading sites that can be moved to various harvesting locations within the harvesting area.

Success in the recruitment of harvesters within the general area will be paramount in establishing a harvesting force capable of achieving our objective.

Harvester Safety

Prior to the 2011 season, harvesters will be provided with safety training on shore and on the water that will consist of familiarization with US Coast Guard Regulations for small vessels, the effects of wind and tides and the partnering of inexperienced harvesters with experienced harvesters. ASL will provide harvesters with a copy of its Rockweed Harvesting Safety Guidelines and it will be stressed to all harvesters that good judgment and responsible actions are key elements to safe harvesting. Small vessel training will be scheduled by ASL on behalf of the harvesters prior to the start of the harvest season. Harvesters will be required to participate in all training sessions sponsored by the company.

All harvesting vessels will be equipped with the required safety devices (e.g. life jackets, flares, sound devices, etc.) complying with the US Coast Guard Regulations. Additionally, the company Health and Safety Director will work with harvesters to educate and encourage them to ensure their equipment meets required safety specifications.

Harvester Recruitment and Training

ASL will place a strong emphasis on the hiring of local people who may already have the operational skills and knowledge required for working safely on the water. Other persons interested in Rockweed harvesting will be recruited and trained on the safe operation of a small vessel and all components of the Rockweed harvesting operations with a strong emphasis on safety. It is estimated that 20 jobs will be created related to the Rockweed Fishery harvest activity.

Familiarization of all aspects of Rockweed harvesting will be carried out during the company's pre-harvest kick-off meeting with the seasoned and new harvesters. Training of new harvesters will be conducted via information sessions with company resource personnel and in the field by experienced harvesters who will remain on site for training for as long as necessary. Training will include familiarizing harvesters with proper boat handling, general boat safety, harvesting technique, cutter rake maintenance, boat unloading technique, harvesting regulations and guidelines, harvest data collection and other related information. All Rockweed harvesters will be instructed to make every reasonable effort to return to the water any bycatch remaining in the boat after unloading. Harvesters failing to comply will be subject to ASL's Rockweed Harvester Disciplinary Policy.

Respectfully submitted
Dennis Bryant,
Director, Maine Rockweed Operations
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