

	Rockweed research priorities meeting - 10 Feb 2010 - Univ. of Maine, Orono		
BROAD TOPIC	RESEARCH QUESTION	# OF VOTES	% OF VOTES CAST
Biomass Assessment	Other nondestructive methods research	10	5%
Biomass Assessment	Improved method of biomass assessment (non destruct)	21	11%
Biomass Assessment	Less variable assessment	14	7%
Biomass Assessment	What is natural mortality versus harvest mortality?	6	3%
Biomass Assessment	Assessment of natural rockweed export	3	2%
Biomass Assessment	Testing of long term effects of harvesting techniques on defined areas	2	1%
Biomass Assessment	Research into other non-destructive methods	1	1%
Biomass Assessment	Assessment of weak habitat/ holdfast attachment	0	0%
Biomass Assessment	Rectify differences between ASP Larsen, Crawford	0	0%
Biomass Assessment	Definition of a rockweed bed	0	0%
Biomass Assessment	Include quality in assessment not just biomass	0	0%
Biomass Assessment	Long term assessments (using other cultures)	0	0%
Biomass Assessment	Assessment of variable growth rates of rockweeds along the maine coast	0	0%
Biomass Assessment	Do growth rates vary along coast of Maine?	0	0%
Ecology & Habitat	How much habitat loss/change in structure is too much? (bold from Tom's ppt)	na	na
Ecology & Habitat	How does rockweed as habitat change with different harvest pressure? (bold from Tom's ppt)	na	na
Ecology & Habitat	What is the role of low trophic levels affect commercially important ones? (bold from Tom's ppt)	na	na
Ecology & Habitat	What are feeding preferences of all animals and how is that affected by changes in substrate or invertebrate abundance from harvesting? (bold	na	na
Ecology & Habitat	Define sustainability	10	5%

Ecology & Habitat	Understand nutrient budgets and trophic links	9	5%
Ecology & Habitat	How does structural change from harvest benefit/detract from habitat?	9	5%
Ecology & Habitat	How does architecture of rockweed affect species?	8	4%
Ecology & Habitat	How much loss/change is too much?	6	3%
Ecology & Habitat	How do seasonal, spatial, and diel variability affect rockweed habitat use?	4	2%
Ecology & Habitat	Variation between boulder fields and ledge	3	2%
Ecology & Habitat	What are synergistic effects of rockweed harvest	3	2%
Ecology & Habitat	Use of rockweed wrack as habitat	2	1%
Ecology & Habitat	Quantify life/death cycles-contribution	2	1%
Ecology & Habitat	Do post-larval lobsters use rockweed for settlement?	2	1%
Ecology & Habitat	Are rockweed beds where harvest occurs essential habitat for fish species?	1	1%
Ecology & Habitat	Connections between rockweed and eelgrass	1	1%
Ecology & Habitat	Biological assessment of rockweed beds	1	1%
Ecology & Habitat	Is rockweed essential habitat for any taxa?	1	1%
Ecology & Habitat	How does spatial scale of bed affect species?	1	1%
Ecology & Habitat	Is there a correlation bet structural complexity and species diversity?	1	1%
Ecology & Habitat	What are the pros and cons of habitat structure changes from harvesting?	0	0%
Ecology & Habitat	Role of endophytic fungi in rockweed	0	0%
Ecology & Habitat	Are mobile animals differentially impacted by different harvesting methods?	0	0%
Ecology & Habitat	Function of rockweed covered ledges detached from mainland.	0	0%
Ecology & Habitat	Better understanding of how other species use rockweed (e.g. clam, scallop)	0	0%
Ecology & Habitat	How does harvesting affect scallops, clam, periwinkles (commercial species)?	0	0%
Ecology & Habitat	How does architecture change affect <i>Ascophyllum</i> zygote settlement?	0	0%

Ecology & Habitat	How do natural and man effect the standing biomass?	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	Assess long-term effects on large spatial scale	9	5%
Effects of Harvesting	What is the difference between 17% and natural mortality in a given year?	7	4%
Effects of Harvesting	What is the difference between uniform and patchy harvesting (include scale)?	5	3%
Effects of Harvesting	Will cumulative effects of successive harvest restructure habitat and/or ecosystems (Russian research)?	5	3%
Effects of Harvesting	What is the biological recovery of the system?	4	2%
Effects of Harvesting	What is the applicability of scientific methods of harvest to commercial practices?	4	2%
Effects of Harvesting	What are impacts of by-catch?	3	2%
Effects of Harvesting	By-catch & harvest(%) data outside of Cobscook Bat	2	1%
Effects of Harvesting	Are there site effects-flow rate, etc.?	2	1%
Effects of Harvesting	Densities (baseline) of by-catch species	2	1%
Effects of Harvesting	Are there regional differences in recovery rates?	1	1%
Effects of Harvesting	What is definition of recovery?	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	What is significance of 17% harvest rate?	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	What is the difference in regeneration response between hand and mechanical harvesting?	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	Research into a natural breaking point of the rockweed thallus	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	Is harvesting older plants beneficial to the plant/bed?	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	Define mortality?	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	Other by-catch species	0	0%
Effects of Harvesting	What is level of sustainability that includes harvest and natural mortality?	0	0%
Economic Impacts	Need to know how rockweed harvest balances with other commercial fisheries?	12	6%
Economic Impacts	Value of rockweed as a medicinal	10	5%
Economic Impacts	Is rockweed a public or private resource?	7	4%

Economic Impacts	What is today's value of rockweed at dock and also in value- added products?	4	2%
Economic Impacts	Who benefits from the harvest?	2	1%
Economic Impacts	How to incorporate local knowledge into future studies	2	1%
Economic Impacts	What is the economic resiliency of communities where rockweed is harvested?	1	1%
Economic Impacts	At what level should rockweed be managed?	1	1%
Economic Impacts	Need info on all harvested rockweed	0	0%
Economic Impacts	What is current economic multiplier (dollars/jobs)?	0	0%
Economic Impacts	Portion of income for harvester-raker	0	0%
Economic Impacts	Literature search of social and economic studies needed	0	0%
Economic Impacts	How to sustain a dialogue about rockweed (many voices)?	0	0%
Economic Impacts	What are the benefits of rockweed as a nutraceutical?	0	0%
	total votes cast	204	
	total divided by 6	34.0	