

Ropeless Fisher™

Pathway to commercial implementation in North American
commercial pot/trap fisheries

By: Marco Flagg & Jacob Wolf
salesinfo@desertstar.com



Maine Touring Gear Demo

Text "DEMO" to (408)-641-3643

Thursday, NOV 14th – PORTLAND

Friday, NOV 15th – CUNDY'S HARBOUR/FRIENDSHIP

Saturday, NOV 16th – ROCKLAND/SPRUCE HEAD

Sunday, NOV 17th – OWLS HEAD/VINALHAVEN

MONDAY, NOV 18th –

STONINGTON/JONESPORT/BEALS

DESERT STAR SYSTEMS
PRESENTS

ROPELESS FISHER™ MAINE TOUR

GET YOUR HANDS ON
THE FUTURE OF
ROPELESS FISHING

HOSTED BY: MARCO FLAGG AND JACOB WOLF

THURSDAY, NOV 14TH IN PORTLAND

FRIDAY, NOV 15TH IN CUNDY'S HARBOR/FRIENDSHIP

SATURDAY, NOV 16TH IN ROCKLAND/SPRUCE HEAD

SUNDAY, NOV 17TH IN OWLS HEAD/VINALHAVEN

MONDAY, NOV 18TH IN STONINGTON/JONESPORT/BEALS

FREE EVENT, TEXT "DEMO" TO (408)-641-3643



1995

FIGURE 10

Method for using carriage bolts as handles to screw anchor into the sand.



a high relief rock or reef that would obstruct the acoustic signal. It is often easiest to screw the anchor into the bottom without the duckle and mooring line attached. These can be attached once the screw is in place. Carriage bolts, or other scrap iron, can be slid through the holes of the mounting bracket

FIGURE 11

Position of acoustic release in mooring.



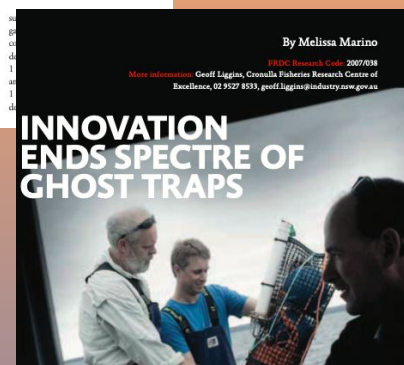
anchors are used to deploy the mooring, but

FIGURE 12

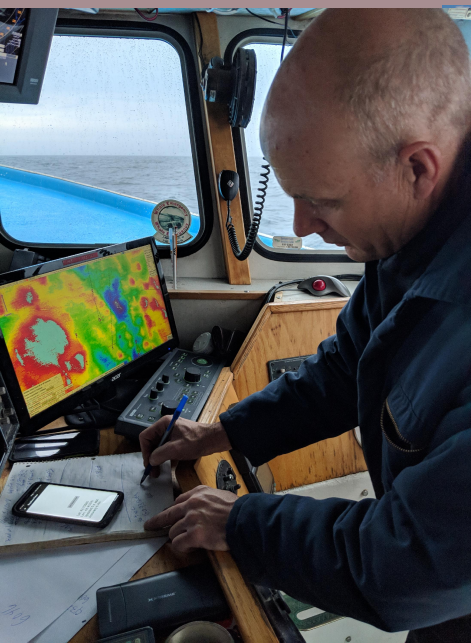
Two ARC-1 acoustic release: the left one shows the gate in the open/release position while the right one shows the gate in the closed position. Nickel-chromium wire holds the gate shut and a loop of nylon-coated braided wire is held by the gate, to which the sanding anchors are tied. The rest of the mooring is tied to the opposite end of the ARC-1 (figure 11).



2005



2010



2018

25 YEARS OF
ROPELESS
8 YEARS OF ARC
5 PILOTS W/ARC
OVER 12K TRAP HAULS

1995

Fisher Ron Firkins of Sydney, invents ropeless fishing with GTR to reduce ship strikes.

2005

ARC mission verified in scientific literature

2010

New South Wales Pilot Project Starts

2012

Start of commercial ropeless fishing in NSW.

2018

4 pilot studies demonstrate commercial viability in North America. ARC-2 introduced.

2019

Ropeless Fisher™ store opens, acoustic gear marking. ARC-3 introduced.

Search...



All Products

Accessories

Acoustic Releases

Deck Boxes & Transducers

Release Bags Kits

Ropeless Fisher™ Systems

Software



STM-3: Deck Box For Ranging Releases

\$ 8,000.00



ARC-1XD: Ranging Acoustic Release

\$ 1,995.00



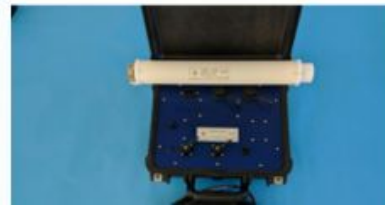
ARC-2: Low-Cost Acoustic Release

\$ 950.00



STM-4: Deck Box For Broadcast Release

\$ 4,000.00

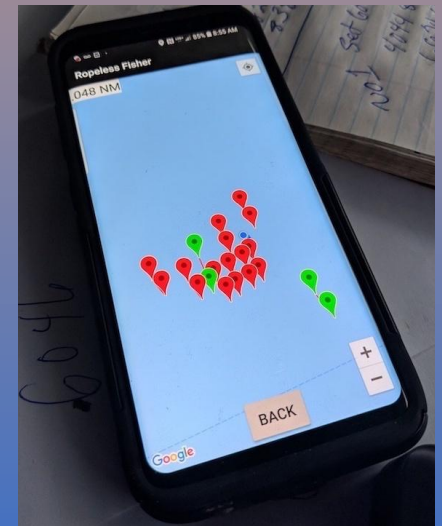


www.ropelessfisher.com

Commercial Products



www.ropelessfisher.com

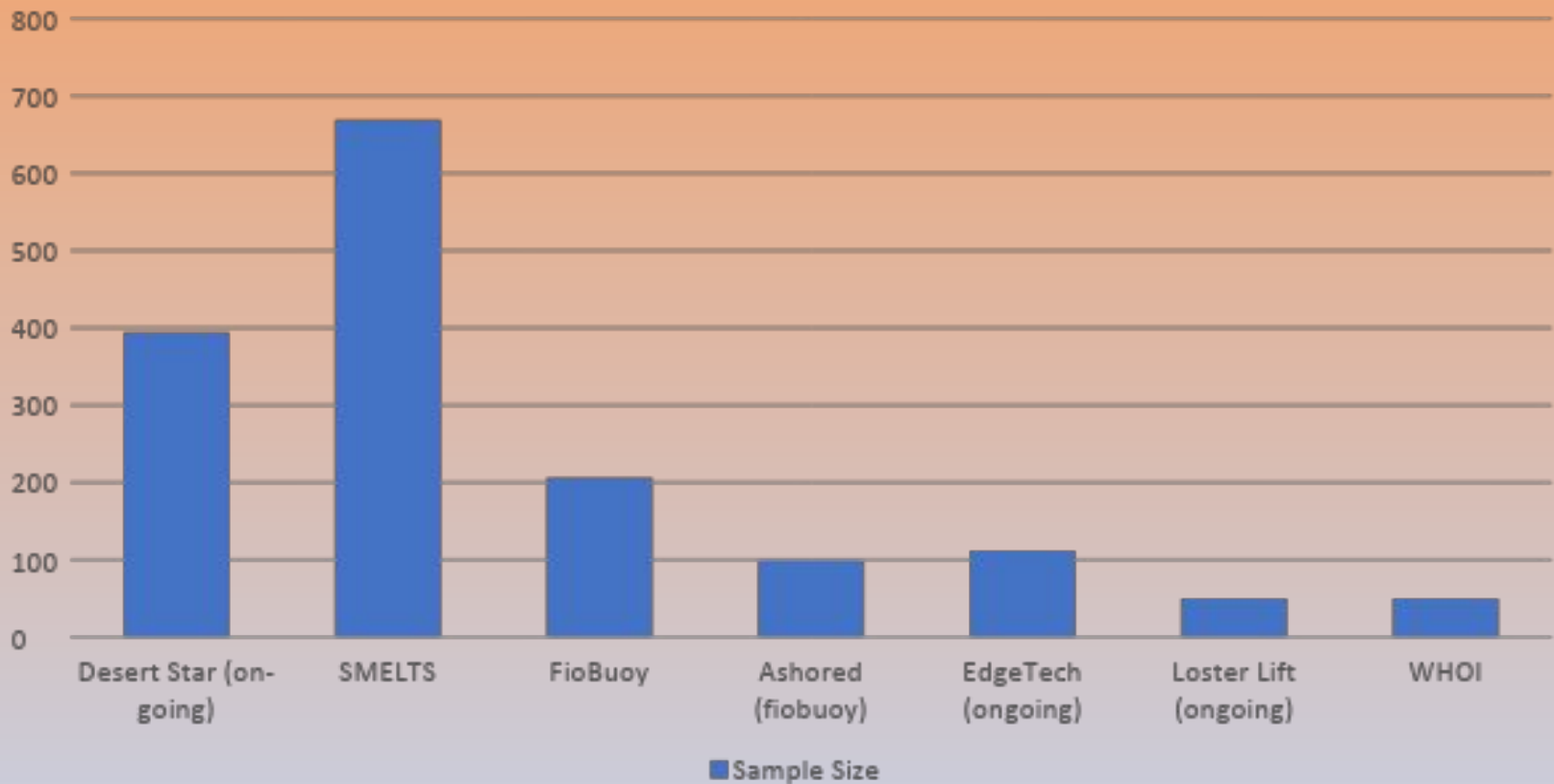


Why is an “aggressive” approach necessary?

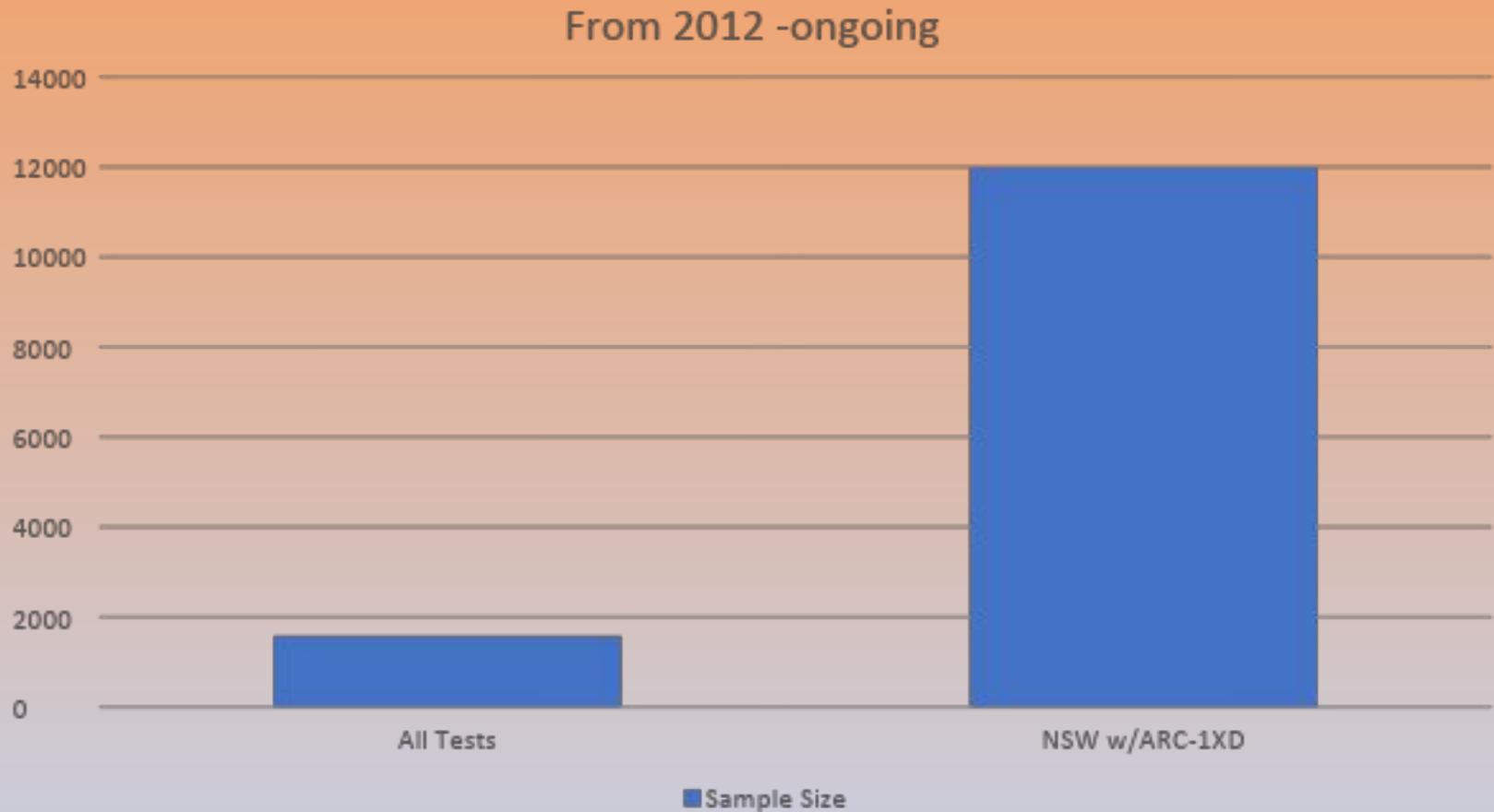
- Ropeless is commercially ready NOW (timeline)
- Requires 100,000's-1,000,000's of gear hauls to refine for full-fleet adoption (63-632 years at current pace)
- Cost-reduction and free market innovation

Refinement

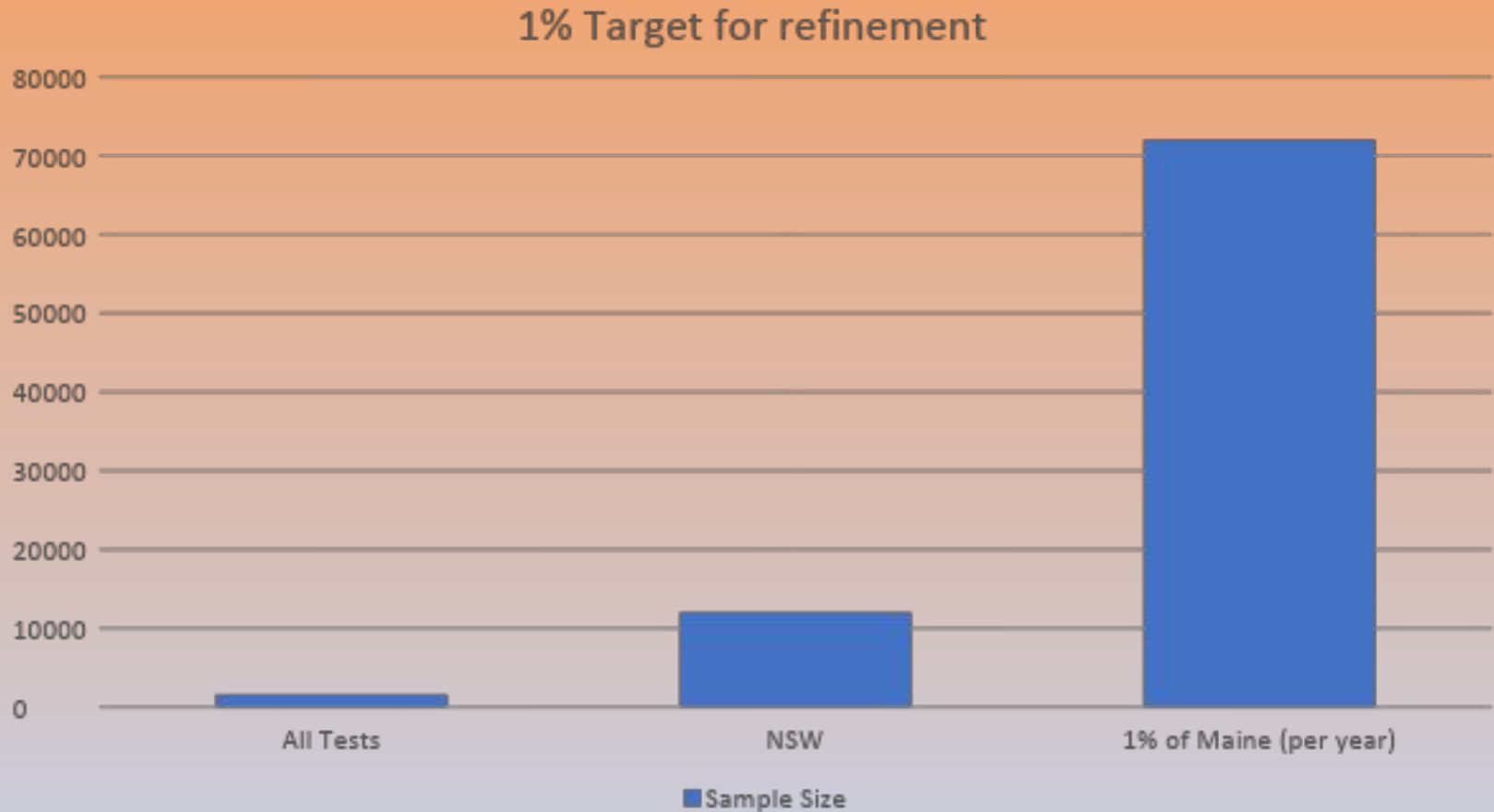
Trap Hauls = 1,581, does not include ongoing (Kim Sawicki)



New South Wales Trap Hauls



Maine Trap Hauls



Not a one-size-fits-all solution

- What works for you (the fisher?)
- Specialization of individual components possible.
- Is the system optimal for you?

Component	Ready	Fisher Tune-In
Release Mechanism	✓	
Commanding System	✓	
Release Bag	✓	✓
Virtual & Acoustic Gear Marking	✓	
Work Flow		✓

What does “readiness” mean?

Multiple Entry Points for Ropeless Fisher™

Business Pressure	Low	Low	Medium	High
	Grappling	GTR KIT	ARC-2	ARC-1XD
Start-up Cost	\$0	\$200-\$300	\$4,000	\$8,000
Annualized cost per end-line	\$0	\$70-\$120 (50 hauls per year)	\$60-\$80	\$100-\$200
Capabilities	N/A	Timed release (single use)	Medium currents/depth	High currents/depth

Why use Ropeless Fisher™?

- Stop poaching
- Prevent ship strikes
- Avoid weather damage
- More reliable buoy access in high currents
- Save time at sea
- Sell catch at a premium
- Prevent entanglements



How you can start

1. Come to our hands on gear demo
2. Browse www.ropelessfisher.com store
3. Get a quotation
4. Create a business plan (we'll help you out)
5. Take it to the bank
6. Apply for a permit (EFP, we have a form for you)
7. Talk to local regulators
8. Place an order (8-12 week delivery time)
9. Free in-person support for early adopters (7 days)
10. Free lifetime remote support

Talk to local regulators

Where is it currently legal?

- Now legal in California
- New South Wales
- United Kingdom
- Ireland
- Cape Verde Islands
- Possibly Others...

It may not be illegal!

- No surface requirement in MA and in CFR (federal waters) (others states?).
- Only need attached buoy in MA and CFR(CMR 6.31, CMR 4.13).
- Does the intent of surface presence have a legal precedent?
- Some fishers already grapple.
- Some fishers specifically use buoys that WILL submerge.

What's New

- **Virtual & Acoustic Gear Marking**
 - **New Release Models**
 - **Release Bag Kits**
- **Weekly Fisher Newsletter (Breakfast Series)**

ARC-3



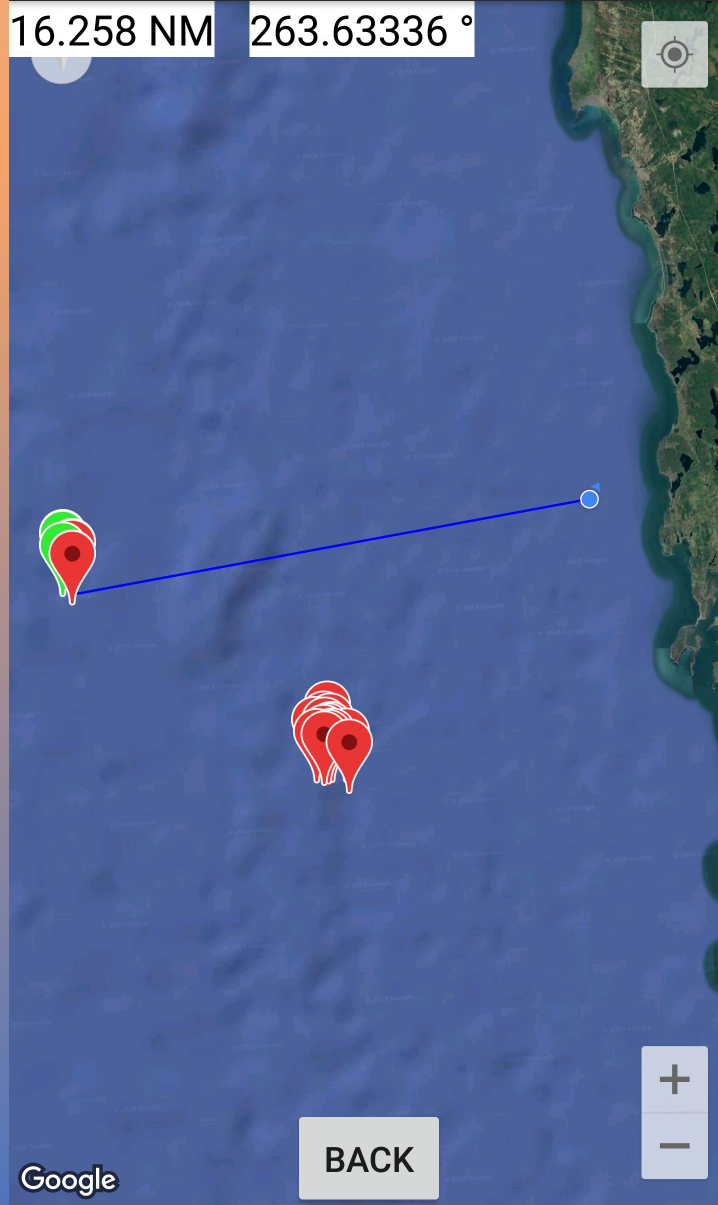
Ropeless Fisher

SK-GTR	13	18.9
SK-GTR	14	18.9
SK-GTR	8	18.93
SK-GTR	11	18.93
SK-GTR	7	18.95
SK-GTR	10	18.96
SK-GTR	12	18.96
SK-GTR	9	18.97
SK-GTR	6	19.0
SK-GTR	5	19.05
SK-GTR	4	19.12
SK-ARC	3	19.22
SK-ARC	2	19.28
SK-GTR	3	21.56
SK-GTR	2	21.7

START DEPLOYMENT

Ropeless Fisher

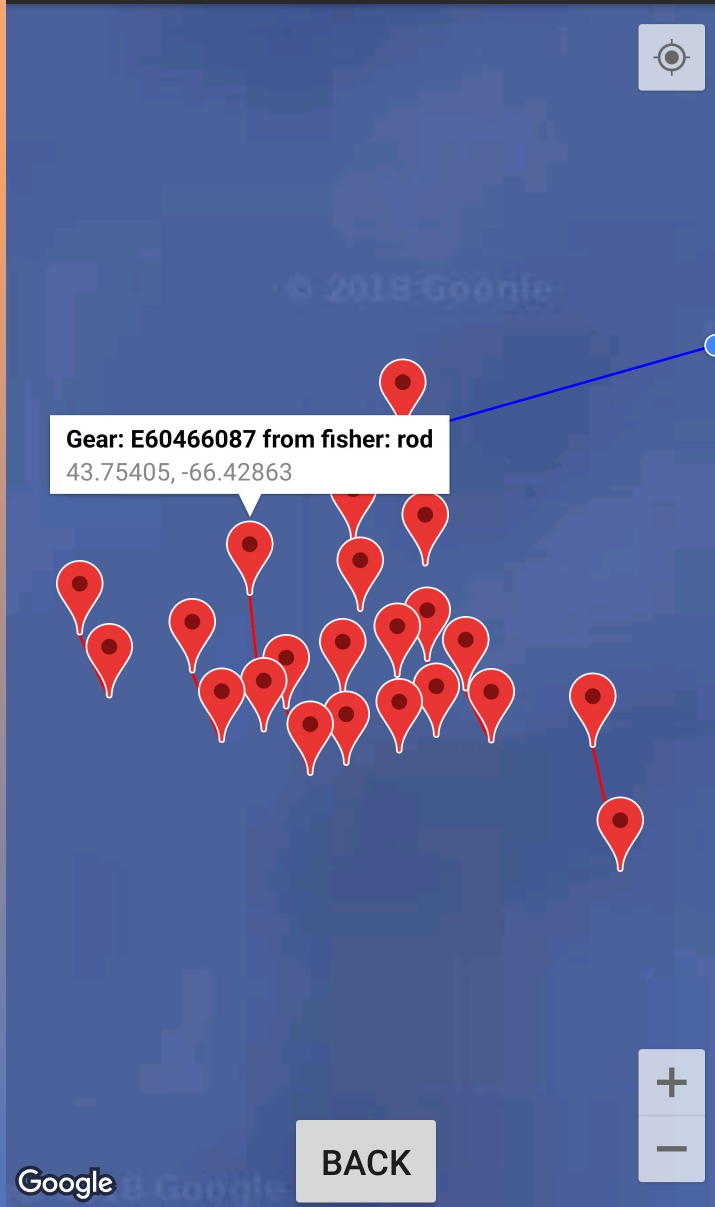
16.258 NM 263.63336 °



Google

BACK

Ropeless Fisher



Ropeless Fisher

.049 NM 11.772888 °



Ropeless Fisher

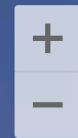
.049 NM 11.772888 °

Trawl Direction

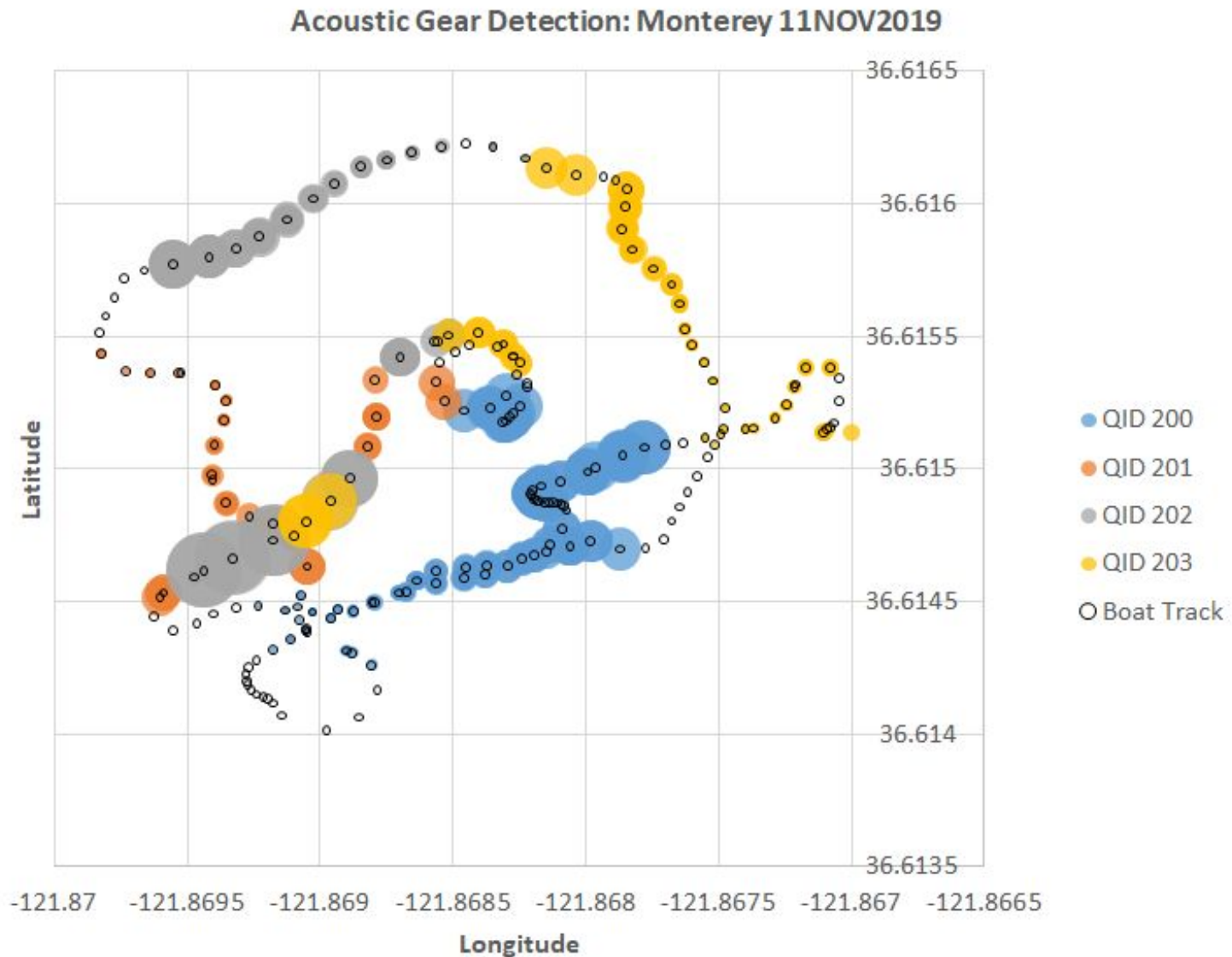
Fisher Location

Google

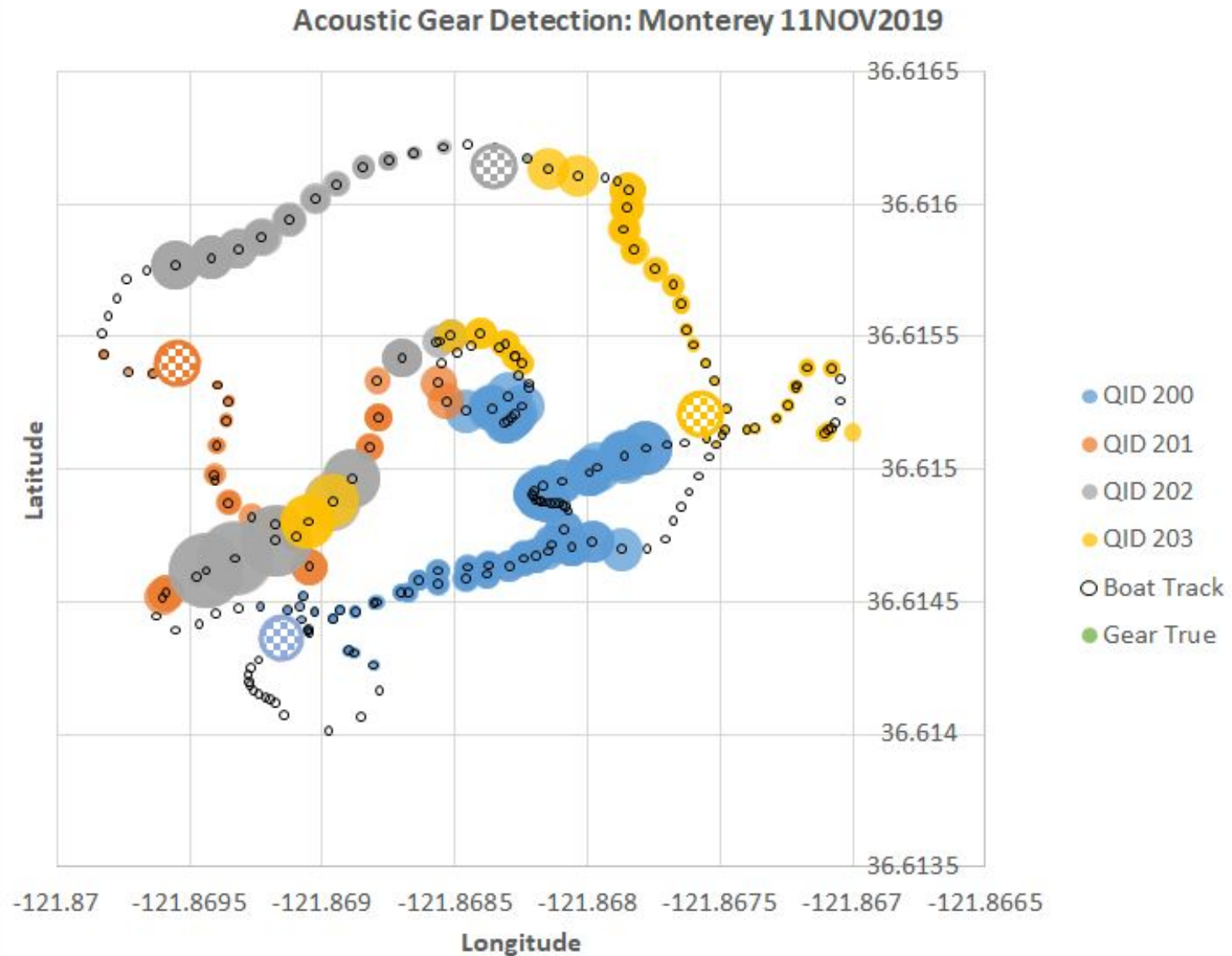
BACK



Acoustic Gear Marking



Acoustic Gear Marking



How you can help

- **Fisher Associations** – Work with us to educate your members in ropeless technique. Encourage early adopters.
- **Regulators** – Look towards “role models” towards interpretation of surface buoy requirements.
- **NGO’s** – Seek favorable regulations and back-up early adopters.
- **Fishers** – Come to demo’s, engage in the breakfast series, experiment with ropeless on your comfort level.
- **Scientists/Engineers** – Focus on commercialization, testing phase is done!
- **Consumers** – Pay attention, your habits play a role too!

Maine & Kim Sawicki Touring Demo's

