



# Ropeless Consortium

## Annual Meeting

### 24 October 2022

The times list below indicate timing for the live meeting sessions. Meeting participants will receive a unique site login code and should view presentations **in advance of the meeting**. Except for introductions, sessions will consist solely of discussions. Participants (both onsite and virtual) may submit questions/comments for presenters both in advance and during the meeting. The four-digit number preceding the presentation title corresponds to the video number on the meeting site.

**All meeting materials (both static and live) are intended for registered participants only and may not be shared in any capacity. All participants have agreed to the meeting Code of Conduct. There is no recording (including but not limited to video, audio, screenshots, or photography) or sharing (including social media) of any material (including but not limited to presentations, presentation content, discussions) without explicit consent of the presenter, speaker, moderator, etc.**

#### **900AM Keynote/Opening**

#### **920AM Session 1: Developers**

*Sean Brilliant, Moderator*

- 01.01 SMELTS advancements of on-demand ropeless fishing to eliminate entanglement risk of North Atlantic right whales and other at-risk whales through partnership and collaboration**
  - Richard Riels, SMELTS.org
- 01.02 EdgeTech Trap Tracker Application improvements and the new marking and positioning improvements using our acoustic technology CAPRI.**
  - Robert Morris, EdgeTech
- 01.03 LobsterLift: A ropeless, self-surfacing, modular lobster trap retrieval system that prioritizes the needs of fishers**
  - Cormac Hondros-McCarthy, Lobster Lift, LLC
- 01.04 The advancement of gear marking in the ropeless fishing industry**
  - Bob Melvin, Teledyne
- 01.05 Status update of Ropeless RISER-: A ropeless fishing system with automated gear location and integral chart plotter display and control**
  - Harold Vincent, Ropeless Systems, Inc.
- 01.06 Development and demonstration of economically viable ropeless fishing systems for single-Line trap fisheries**
  - Bart Chadwick, Sub Sea Sonics
- 01.07 Rapid Change: The case of the Cape Town (South Africa) octopus fishery's transition to On-Demand "Ropeless" fishing**
  - Marco Flagg, Desert Star Systems, LLC
- 01.08 Longsoaker Fishing Systems Guardian ropeless gear solution**
  - Russ Mullins, Longsocker Fishing Systems

*Discussion Panelists: Presenters above*

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**1000AM     Session 2: Gear Location Marking**

*Michael Moore, Moderator*

**Introductions**

**Where are we going with gear location marking?**

- Mark Baumgartner, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

**Stakeholder identified needs for buoyless gear location marking**

- Sean Brilliant, Canadian Wildlife Federation

**02.01 EarthRanger Geolocation Solutions**

- Christin Khan, Northeast Fisheries Science Center

**02.02 Subsea gear location development, ropeless gear risk assessment, and feasibility modeling: A summary of ongoing and upcoming research related to ropeless fishing in the Gulf of Maine**

- Kevin Staples, Maine Department of Marine Resources

**02.03 The rmwHUB: Development and testing of an international virtual fishing gear marking tool**

- Kim Sawicki, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth/Sustainable Seas Technology

*Discussion Panelists: Presenters above, Philippe Cormier, US/Canadian Enforcement*

**1130AM     Lunch**

**1230PM     Session 3: Trials**

*Sean Brilliant, Moderator*

**03.01 Collaboration with fishers demonstrates the multiple benefits of pop-up fishing systems in southern California**

- Kurt Lieber, Ocean Defenders Alliance

**03.02 Optimal areas for ropeless fishing in the Gulf of Maine to reduce large whale entanglement**

- Rachel Bratton, University of Massachusetts, Boston

**03.03 Testing 3 different ropeless technologies for snow crab fishing in the Gulf of St. Lawrence**

- Lyne Morissette, M – Expertise Marine, Inc.

**03.04 Update on efforts to reduce right whale and marine wildlife entanglement and reduce gear loss in the New England sink gillnet ground fishery using SMELTS ropeless raft systems and Blue Ocean Gear Farallon buoys**

- Richard Klyver, Blue Planet Strategies

*Discussion Panelists: Presenters above*

**115PM     Session 4: Ropeless Fishing**

*Mark Baumgartner, Moderator*

**Introduction**

- Sean Brilliant, Canadian Wildlife Federation

**04.01 Overview of on-demand fishing progress in US Northwest Atlantic: A collaboration**

- Eric Matzen, NOAA Fisheries/Northeast Fisheries Science Center

**04.02 CanFISH: A gear lending program providing access and training to the commercial fishing industry to facilitate on-demand fishing in Atlantic Canada**

- Elizabeth Vézina, Canadian Wildlife Federation

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**04.03 Using ropeless in closed fishing areas: Sea trials of snow crab fishing gear in the Gulf of St. Lawrence**

- Philippe Cormier, CORBO Engineering

**04.04 Making “ropeless” real in the South Atlantic black sea bass pot fishery**

- Kim Sawicki, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth/Sustainable Seas Technology

*Discussion Panelists: Presenters above, US and Canadian fishermen*

**230PM Break**

**300PM Session 5: Regulatory Process and Permitting**

*Michael Moore, Moderator*

**05.01 From Experimental to Commercial Rope-on-demand/Ropeless Fishing in Atlantic Canada**

- Edward Trippel, Integrated Resource Management, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

**05.02 NOAA's Ropeless Roadmap: A strategy to develop on-demand fishing**

- Michael Asaro, Northeast Fisheries Science Center

**05.03 A progress update from the Mass. DMF on-demand fishing gear scoping project**

- Noah Oppenheim, Homarus Strategies

*Discussion Panelists: Presenters above, GARFO, DFO, Regina Asmutis-Silvia, Erica Fuller*

**400PM Discussion - Moving Ropeless Forward**

**500PM Wrap Up**

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