



## Blue Hill Bay Use Inventory

### **About the Use Inventory**

Friends of Blue Hill Bay is leading a new effort to conduct a Use Inventory of Blue Hill Bay. The Use Inventory will compile data about the bay and the many ways it is used for commercial, recreational, governmental, scientific, and other purposes.

Many types of information will be collected and mapped as part of the Use Inventory including: public access points; piers; conserved land abutting the bay; moorings; scientific research sites; commercial aquaculture and fisheries; marine industry; tourism uses; and more. Data will be gathered from various sources including municipal records, GIS (Geographic Information Systems) data layers, the Department of Marine Resources, and directly from community members.

### **Collecting & Compiling Information**

The Farmington-based Center for Community GIS, part of the Quebec-Labrador Foundation, will assist Friends Of Blue Hill Bay to gather and map data on bay uses. The Center has recently completed a similar project for Maine's Muscongus Bay region, and has extensive experience in "participatory mapping" techniques.

Friends of Blue Hill Bay staff and volunteers will also gather data directly from community members who know and use the bay. Local knowledge of bay uses will form the backbone of the Use Inventory.

### **Why a Use Inventory?**

The completed Use Inventory will provide a baseline of data that can be used to identify changing bay use patterns over time. It will also provide a foundation for ongoing dialogue among those who use the bay. Friends of Blue Hill Bay believes that the Inventory will be a resource for the many people who depend upon the bay for their livelihoods and enjoyment, helping to build better understanding about the many ways that the bay is used and how best to preserve its natural ecology, traditional marine fisheries, and unique aesthetic qualities. The completed inventory will be publicly accessible, and available for use by individuals, towns, and community groups.

### **We welcome your participation!**

Please contact us for more information, or to get involved: Heather Albert-Knopp, Use Inventory Project Coordinator, 359-2157, [halbertknopp@zwi.net](mailto:halbertknopp@zwi.net)