



SEA PORT®

Sustainability Assessment

COLD WATER AMERICAN LOBSTER TAILS

Sea Port sources American Lobster from both Canada and the U.S. There are four major stocks designated in Canada and three major stocks in the U.S. that comprise both nearshore and offshore fisheries. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Canada that manages Canadian stocks and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission in cooperation with the National Marine Fisheries Service that manages U.S. stocks have very similar management schemes designed for sustaining the American Lobster fisheries.

For roughly the past 20 years, these two nations have maintained harvests that has been stable to even increasing in recent years. Both the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch programs have determined that most Canadian and U.S. American Lobster fisheries are sustainably managed.

GO BLUE! SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY SPECTRUM

Cold Water American Lobster



Catch Our Wave® to Sustainability

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT LEVEL: Low to Moderate

American Lobsters are currently abundant throughout most of their range. Both Canadian and U.S. management schemes of restricting the harvest of most females, regulating lobster sizes that can be landed, and regulating fishing areas and seasonality, and trap (pot) specifications that reduce unwanted bycatch and mitigate the damage caused by lost traps have resulted in a fishery that has low negative benthic habitat and ecosystem impacts along with low interaction with seabirds, other fisheries, and threatened/endangered species.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

The vertical buoy lines of American Lobster traps can entangle endangered Right Whales, Humpback Whales, and sea turtles. This is an area of improvement that may warrant closing of certain areas during whale and turtle migrations and possibly creating new break-a-way lines technologies. In addition, adapting American

ACTIONS THAT SEA PORT IS UNDERTAKING

Sea Port supports this fishery and by doing so will help advance the environmental sustainability of this well managed fishery. This well managed wild American Lobster fishery adds another sustainable and responsibly produced seafood to a growing variety of seafood choices that will help sustain the health of both humans and the planet's ecosystems. Sea Port believes that, in aggregate, choosing from a diverse variety of seafood is better for sustaining the world's seafood resources and that American Lobster should be a part of this variety.

