

SAM LASH

Interviewer: Brandon
Date: September 28, 2003
Place: Brandon's house
Transcriber: Peggy Simmons



Sam Lash was born on September 4, 1986. He has always lived in Friendship, and his family has been here for at least four generations. He has two brothers. He has been a lobsterman for about five years and enjoys hunting and fishing.

Q: When did you start lobstering?

A: I started when I was about twelve years old. My cousin Isaac got me into it. I've liked it ever since then.

Q: How long have you been lobstering?

A: I guess it's been about five or six years.

Q: Why did you become a lobsterman?

A: When I was a kid, I used to go out on the boat, and I've just loved it ever since then.

Just something about it I love.

Q: What is the length of your boat? Describe it.

A: I have a 30-foot Repco with a 226-Isuzu diesel engine in it. It's a fiberglass hull. The color of my boat is orange. The name of it is *Clockwork*, and it came with the name. It came with this name, so I really don't have a reason for naming it.

Q: What equipment do you carry on board?

A: I have a fathometer which tells you how deep or how shallow the water is. A plotter which helps you know where you are--it's like a navigational chart. I have a VHF radio, so I can get a hold of someone if I have any problems, and I have an AM/FM radio and a radar for on foggy days, so you can see other boats.

Q: Describe your lobster traps, size and weight.

A: I fish 4-foot traps that are 2-feet wide, and they probably weigh about 40 pounds apiece.

Q: How often do you pull your traps?

A: I haul them three or four times a week, if I can.

Q: How can you tell your traps from someone else's?

A: I have a different buoy color; it's fluorescent blue and fluorescent yellow.

Q: What do you use for bait?

A: I use pogies and herring, and I get it from O'Hara Bait in Rockland.

Q: What other kinds of fish get caught in your traps?

A: I usually catch codfish and sculpins and flounder. Usually I throw them back. Sometimes I use sculpins for the bait.

Q: Where do you take your lobsters at the end of the day?

A: I sell to Lash Lobster Wharf, to Stevie, and he determines the price and what I get for them that day.

Q: What is a normal haul for a day?

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A: On a really bad day you get about half a pound to a pound per trap. On a good day you get 2 or 3 pounds per trap.

Q: What do you like most about lobstering?

A: Nothing I really like the most about it. It's just something about it I love.

Q: Do you lobster in the winter?

A: I don't go in the winter yet. I will probably, once I get more gear.

Q: What do you do in the winter?

A: Build new traps, paint my buoys, and get ready for the next season.