

Maine Rockweed Coalition, 501c3
Position statement
2025

Mission of the Maine Rockweed Coalition: to *"promote conservation of intertidal marine habitat, including rockweed."*

1. The Maine Rockweed Coalition supports **strong and effective regulation** of rockweed harvesting by the State of Maine, with the goal of an **ecologically sustainable harvest** for this important commercial fisheries and wildlife habitat. MRC does not advocate stopping all industrial-scale rockweed harvesting.

An ecologically sustainable harvest would incorporate the [2020 harvest recommendations](#) of USDA's National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).

2. In order to achieve the goal of ecologically sustainable rockweed harvesting in Maine, MRC urges the State of Maine to:
 - Adopt more ecologically sustainable standards through regulations for harvest, following the 2020 USDA NOSB recommendations for macroalgae (above).
 - Extend the existing Maine state law for the Cobscook Bay Rockweed Management Area to cover the rest of the State's coastline.
 - Enforce the 2019 Ross decision (Ross v. Acadian Seaplants), in which the Maine Supreme Court (Law Court) unanimously determined that rockweed growing in the intertidal zone is the property of the intertidal owner, usually the adjacent upland landowner.