



FLC 2017 RECAP

Dear Fish Locally Collaborative,

Another year is now behind us - a year full of collaboration, achievements, and of course fun! As Ben Cohen of Ben & Jerry's fame said: "If it's not fun, why do it?" It's hard to have fun if you don't love what you do. What fishermen and women consistently say is even though their work is hard – really hard - they do it because they love it. Advocating is hard – really hard! – and what the FLC has shown is the love for community-based fisheries is an act of love.

Exactly how much love? Here's a recap of all we accomplished together in 2017 and a few exciting endeavors in the making for 2018, including the next FLC Assembly. It's been a few years since we've congregated in person, and as you'll see when you read on there are quite some exciting happenings that are to come in 2018 that promise to remedy this situation.

The FLC would not be possible without each of you. **Thank You.** Thanks to all of you who are feeding us - from our stomachs, to our minds, and to our hearts. The individual and collective accomplishments recapped here – and more that probably didn't make this list – have happened because each of you took the time to be a part of this Collaborative on top of your already full plates. Thanks to all who realize the power of the FLC and are doing your work through this network.

The FLC weaves our individual worlds together through our commitment to a shared purpose of supporting the recovery and maintenance of marine biodiversity through community-based fisheries and to our shared [values](#). A rising tide lifts all boats, and you are indeed rising the tide.

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Collaborations

◆ **Know Your Fisherman Campaign.** What started years ago amongst FLC collaborators as a movement building campaign is now reaching millions and has grown to epic proportions. **Politicians** like Chellie Pingree (D-ME) are promoting KYF in [press releases](#) and a FL mayor declared February as [Know Your Fisherman month](#). **Events** like One Fish Foundation's KYF Dinners, Food Day San Diego, and NAMA's Seafood Throwdowns are using KYF to engage communities across the country. **Media Outlets** like the Huffington Post and Edible continuously use KYF with articles like [Know Your Fisherman Movement Goes International](#). **Networks** like Community Fisheries Network & Ecotrust are sparking [new campaign videos](#), Slow Fish is spreading KYF with [videos](#), [declarations](#), and [gatherings](#) around the world. **Other Outlets** include Salmon Sisters' cool [KYF t-shirts](#) and Dock to Dish's city endorsed KYF exhibit.



◆ **FLC Values and Narrative Complete.** Following the FLC Assembly in 2014 we heard from the network that a set of values and narrative would help expand our common ground, orient and align with new collaborators, provide a 'north star' for direction, and help folks outside the FLC understand our work. Since then we gathered broad feedback through surveys, conference calls, retreats, and basically any way we could muster, to generate lots of network input. Now, this phase is complete! You can click the following links to read: [core values](#) and [narrative](#). The next phase of this process will include operationalizing the values. (More on this next phase at the end of this document.)

◆ **Organizing against Catch Shares.** Fishermen in the Southeast U.S. organized allies who submitted over 700 written comments against the consolidation and privatization that comes with Catch Share policies. You can read the [submitted comments](#) or a [news article](#) on the topic. Commercial fisherman Chris McCaffity says "If you submitted a public comment opposing the catch EFP, THANK YOU!"

◆ **Two Webinars and a Podcast Series.** A Professor, a fisherman, and a health care advocate joined forces with the One Fish Foundation via the Local Catch webinar platform to talk about "[Flipping Fisheries Management on Its Head](#)". A Local Catch webinar focused on "[Connecting to the CSA Movement](#)". A new [podcast series](#) also came out focusing on North Carolina's 1997 Fisheries Reform Act—the state's most historically important fisheries legislation.

◆ **Ongoing Effort to Save Bristol Bay.** The EPA's proposal to withdraw protections for Bristol Bay rivers and clean water was met with opposition by almost 26,000 Alaskan comments, 2,000 Bristol Bay residents, and more than 750,000 public comments. To keep the pressure on and help protect Bristol Bay from threats posed by the Pebble Mine check out [Save Bristol Bay](#). One Fish Foundation also wrote a [blog post](#) analyzing the recent news that Pebble Mine has "reared its ugly head again".

- ◆ **Know Fish Dinners.** One Fish Foundation, the New England Fishmongers, and Chef's Collaborative worked together to bring 4 educational and delicious dinners to folks in New Hampshire to raise awareness about fisheries and the importance of sourcing local seafood from community-based fishermen.
- ◆ **Shifting University Seafood Buying Power.** The Read Food Challenge along with fishermen and other collaborators within the FLC worked together to form baseline criteria for values-based seafood purchasing that students will bring to their dining hall directors and food policymakers around the country.
- ◆ **Food Solutions New England (FSNE) Progresses Onward.** FSNE, a regional food system collaborative network, has stepped into the next phase of work in-line with the [regional vision](#) of producing 50% of its own food by 2060. Collaborators from across the region are now working on developing a food policy platform, researching and reporting on indicators important to achieving the vision and working to develop a new narrative that will mobilize individuals and policymakers to act to transform New England's food system. Coming soon: A New England fisheries convening, stay tuned for more on that!

Congratulations

- ◆ **Hero of the Seas.** Congratulations to Robin Alden on being named Hero of the Seas, one of the Peter Benchley Ocean Awards. A Congratulations is also in order for Robin's retirement! Robin was amongst the original crew who started the Fish Locally Collaborative back in 2008. Her lifetime of service to fisheries cannot go understated. Both the FLC and all the folks Robin mentored along the way will forever be stronger because of her deep commitment to our collective vision and values. Thank you, Robin! *Photo: Robin Alden receiving Hero of the Seas award.*



- ◆ **A Win for Fisheries Safety and Health.** JJ Bartlett, president of the Fishing Partnership Support Services, announced the White House's passage of a budget bill that will secure safety training for all fishermen. The new Fishing Safety Training Grants Program will be fully funded and for the first time in history, safety training for the US fishing industry will be available to all fishermen.
- ◆ **Dock to Dish.** Launched and successfully funded a Kickstarter to roll out Dock to Dish 2.0, an advanced tracking and traceability platform intended to bring small-scale fisheries into the digital age. They will soon provide an "open-sourced" summary of their research and development bundle to any and all small- and medium-scale, independent fisheries because they believe #WhoFishesMatters. Congratulations are also in order for being named in the UN Foundation's Sustainable Development Goal 14 as a company "that can scale to solve the ocean's grand challenges." Read more about Dock to Dish 2.0 in this [Wall Street Journal](#)

[article](#) and check out this [VICE article](#) that highlights both the CSF model and the recognition of Dock to Dish by the UN.

◆ **Adding Another Family Member to Our Community!**

NAMA's community organizer Brett Tolley and his wife Danielle had their first baby, Leo Gaven Tolley on November 22nd. We are so happy for new parents Brett and Danielle.

- ◆ **Fishadelphia Launch!** Fishadelphia is a community-supported fishery program bringing fresh fish and shellfish from NJ to a diverse group of customers in Philly. The day-to-day operations of the business are run by high school students. The pilot season will run from Feb to May 2018 and will involve 8 bi-weekly deliveries of fish. You can find out more about this program by visiting their [website](#).



- ◆ **National Young Fishermen's Program.** Congratulations to the Alaska Marine Conservation Council and other collaborators for their work around the newly introduced congressional bill Young Fishermen's Development Act of 2017 that would establish a grant program to provide training, education, outreach, and technical assistance initiatives for young fishermen around the country.

- ◆ **Food Sovereignty Prize Winners.** NAMA was recognized this year with the Food Sovereignty Prize by the U.S. Food Sovereignty Alliance. A Prize we very much share with everyone in the FLC and all of our allies and partners who have helped us to be at the forefront of building a more democratic and just seafood system for all. We'll continue building and working with you all for seafood sovereignty in the years ahead.

- ◆ **New Cookbook from Stephanie Villani.** The Fisherman's Wife: Sustainable Recipes and Salty Stories was published in July 2017 by Stephanie Villani and Kevin Bay. Stephanie and her husband Alex, a commercial fisherman out of Mattituck, Eastern Long Island, have been selling their fresh fish in NYC Greenmarkets for 29 years. The book contains info about local fish, fishing regulations and the importance of protecting the coastal environment and the commercial fishing industry. Available at www.bluemoonfish.com or on Amazon.

- ◆ **New Hampshire Community Seafood Award.** The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment awarded NH Community Seafood with a Sustainable Industry Award. They were recognized for demonstrating innovation and leadership in efforts to improve the well-being of the Gulf of Maine ecosystem and the communities that call it home. *Photo: Kendall Young, Asst. Manager and Andrea Tomlinson, Manager of NH Community Seafood at their Annual Shareholder's Celebration, holding Jonah crabs they auctioned off.*



Connections

- ◆ **Seafood Throwdowns.** We saw many of you at Seafood Throwdowns throughout the summer months visiting communities from the Bronx to Providence, North Carolina to Oregon and many places in between. FLC members had a hand in each of these events - you sourced the seafood, competed as chefs, judged the competitions, rocked the mic as an emcee, and graciously hosted us. These are some of our favorite times of the year, and we thank all those who joined us! We'll be updating you all soon about planning 2018 events!
- ◆ **Rocking the Boat for Kathy Ozer.** An incredible community came together to celebrate the life and work of the late Kathy Ozer. We're sending a heartfelt thank you to the wonderful co-hosts, chefs and food businesses who Rocked the Boat for Kathy Ozer. Thanks to our co-hosts for collaborating to coordinate the event: Farm Aid, Food & Water Watch, Food for Maine's Future, Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Association, Grassroots International, Rural Coalition, Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts, WhyHunger, Women of Fishing Families, and World Farmers.
- ◆ **State-Based Approaches to the Seafood System.** Many FLC members were present at a one-day conference, Building the Massachusetts Seafood System in Gloucester on August 2nd to explore collaboration opportunities to grow the local seafood system. In New Hampshire, the "Fisheries Action Team" was convened and hosted by the NH Food Alliance. Each of these convenings brought diverse stakeholders to the table to weigh in on opportunities for relocalizing our seafood system.
- ◆ **Climate March & Fisheries.** GreenWave and the US Food Sovereignty Alliance organized contingents of folks to attend the People's Climate March in DC. Their presence brought the issue of fisheries to a national conversation around climate change impacts.
- ◆ **La Via Campesina and Agroecology.** As a member of the National Family Farm Coalition, delegates including Julianna of NAMA, traveled to the Basque Country to be a part of the 7th International Conference of La Via Campesina. Peasants, farmers and farmworkers, pastoralists, and fisherfolk from around the world came together to build the movement for food sovereignty. You can read the Declaration that came out of this conference [here](#).
- ◆ **Another Successful year at Farm Aid!** This year, we teamed up with the National Family Farm Coalition and the Rural Advancement Foundation International to engage concertgoers in conversations on fair price and solicited input on the Declaration of Interdependence. Thank you to all those who supplied seafood to this year's concert including: the Heritage Shellfish Cooperative for providing clams for the VIP tent; Wide Net Project for supplying blue catfish; The Fish Monger's Wife for the lake trout; The Billion Oyster Project for well... oysters; and, for the third year in a row the Basnight's Lone Cedar Cafe was a vendor offering their now famous shrimp & grits to the concert goers!
- ◆ **World Forum of Fisher Peoples General Assembly.** We were honored to join the World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) in Delhi, India this November as allies at their General Assembly. WFFP has 29 member

organizations from 23 countries and represents over 10 million fisher people from all over the world. WFFP supports its members to strengthen their organizational capacities, and advocates for the rights of fisher people to access and manage fisheries resources, for human rights and for the protection of natural biodiversity. Check out their recently published report on Food Sovereignty and Agroecology in Small-Scale Fisheries.

- ◆ **Maine Fishermen's Forum Pub Gathering.** FLC members in and around Maine got together at the Maine Fishermen's Forum to have a beer and connect. Thanks to Sarah Schumann with Eating with the Ecosystem for organizing this impromptu gathering.
- ◆ **Slow Food Nations in Denver.** Many FLC members attended this July event, Colles Stowell gave a Slow Fish 101 [presentation](#) and cooked Gumbo! Keep your eyes out for the upcoming Slow Fish gathering in San Francisco happening April 14-16. Contact Kevin Scribner for more details and to get involved.
- ◆ **21 Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge.** Our friends at Food Solutions New England are planning the third installment of the 21-day online challenge. Sign up on [their website](#).

Policy Updates

- ◆ **Organized Opposition to Offshore Drilling.** The Business Alliance for Protecting the Atlantic Coast has done tremendous work this year uniting state delegations from both sides of the aisle in the fight to combat offshore oil and gas drilling on the Atlantic Coast. Governors of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, as well as west coast's California, Oregon, and Washington have publicly decried the move to open our oceans to drilling in solidarity with the 41,000 businesses that also support BAPAC's mission. *Photo: Frank Knapp and BAPAC board members Rick Baumann and Pat Broom visit Capitol Hill to discuss threats of offshore drilling.*



- ◆ **Trip to DC to Visit the Hill.** Fishermen, the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries and the National Family Farm Coalition journeyed to DC in September to discuss the problems faced by small-scale fishermen as the result of the Magnuson Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (what we like to call, the Fish Bill). FLC members and NAMA staff visited offices of House and Senate Members as well as Commerce and Natural Resources Committees to present the realities that fishermen are facing and seek solutions to these issues. In addition, we raised awareness around the impact of the Codfather and steps that both Congress and NOAA can take to ensure that the policies which empowered Carlos Rafael are equally held on trial.

- ◆ **Transparency with GE Salmon.** A victory for public transparency! The FDA must now release documents previously excluded from the public on the agency's approval of GE salmon. GE salmon could threaten wild (and endangered) salmon populations and currently lacks evaluation on potential harm to environment and health. Thanks to folks in the FLC who are leading the charge on this including the Community Alliance for Global Justice and Friends of the Earth, among many more!

- ◆ **Salmon Jailbreak.** Many in our network weighed in on the Cooke Aquaculture net pen escapes this summer. Colles shared this blog post he wrote and shared a petition by Wild Fish Conservancy to Washington State's Governor. Sonia Strobel and Kelly's Fresh Fish weighed in on how terrifying this is for small-scale commercial salmon fishing in BC and WA and the need to talk more publicly about these threats, recommending this documentary. Chris McCaffity talked about how aquaculture legislation is being pushed through in North Carolina and the need to organize to oppose open-water fish farming, with Susan West also addressing the aquaculture policy landscape in NC. As a silver lining, Washington State canceled an Atlantic salmon farm lease as a result of violations, which is now being challenged, resulting in a [legal battle](#).

- ◆ **Codfather Trial.** One of the biggest events of 2017 was the trial and sentencing of Carlos Rafael, or, the Codfather. This elevated the opportunity to address the New England Catch Share system and how a defunct democratic process has made it easy for adopting fisheries management plans that are privatizing, consolidating, and corporatizing our public resource. Some great news items coming out of this were from [Mother Jones](#), [NPR](#), and the [Boston Globe](#). NOAA filed civil charges against Rafael seeking a \$1 million civil penalty, revocation of 36 additional fishing permits and a seafood dealer permit, and a lifetime ban from fishing. You can read NAMA's [statement](#) about the ruling to learn more.

- ◆ **SlowFish at the United Nations.** On behalf of a collaboration with Slow Food International and the Slow Fish network, Brett Tolley delivered a [speech at the United Nations Ocean Conference](#). Brett spoke about the collective work to transform the seafood system and the policies required to sustain a healthy ocean, fishing communities, and local economies. He also connected what is happening in the US to the work being done by the [World Forum of Fisher People](#).

- ◆ **Debate Over Opening U.S. Atlantic Marine Monument to Fishing.** Many FLC folks weighed in on whether there should be a Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument with concerns that the near shore, small- and medium-scale fishing operations would be most impacted by the monument. There were lots of press on this issue, including this interview on [Boston Public Radio](#) with NAMA's board president, Shannon Eldredge, who weighed-in on a leaked memo indicating that current Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke is considering allowing fishing in the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument.

Market Shifts

- ◆ **Local Catch Released Two New Tools.** Localcatch.org launched their new [seafood finder map](#). This tool is an important step in making sure CSFs get public visibility. Be sure to check it out and share with your networks. Local Catch also developed an updated and expanded [CSF Guide](#). The new guide builds upon an earlier resource guide published in association with the first-ever National Summit on Community Supported Fisheries that we held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.
- ◆ **Top trends in "Valuesful" Seafood.** Real Good Fish's Take on the [Top Trends](#) for 2016 and 2017.
- ◆ **Defining Sustainable Seafood.** Taylor Witkin's [blog post](#) shares insights on the shortcomings of current sustainable seafood certifications
- ◆ **Dishin' out Dogfish.** Values-based seafood distributor Red's Best is opening a new line of value-added domestic dogfish items aimed to support community-based fishermen and increase access to quality, locally abundant seafood for institutions and the greater public.
- ◆ **Dock to Dish Expands Beyond Borders.** Dock to Dish has expanded to markets in Costa Rica and Nicaragua and will soon be expanding to the Bahamas and Fiji.
- ◆ **Fulton Street Fish Market Cooptation.** Many FLC members signed on to a letter opposing Fulton Street's claim to operate a Community Supported Fishery. Conversations are ongoing with Fulton. Contact Julianna to get involved.
- ◆ **Farm to Institution New England Embracing Seafood.** At last years FINE Conference FLC collaborators Eating with the Ecosystem, One Fish Foundation, and Health Care. Without Harm, organized a panel to highlight seafood purchasing criteria that institutions should consider when purchasing seafood. FINE also launched their Farm and Sea to Campus Network, aimed at getting more land and sea food into higher education institutions across New England.
- ◆ **Bringing Local Seafood to School.** Classical High School in Providence, Rhode Island is the first in RI to partner with Red's Best to bring fresh, local seafood to students. Red's Best Sustainable Seafood Program Director (& NAMA Board Member!) spoke to this effort in an [article you can check out here](#).
- ◆ **New England Fishmongers - Fishing Without a Net.** The [Portland Press Herald](#) highlighted our friends at New England Fishmongers and the F/V Finlander, why they fish the way they fish, their values, and our work together to shift the seafood market and fisheries policies.
- ◆ **Book Featuring FLC Collaborators Shines Spotlight on Catch Shares.** Lee van der Voo published her book titled "[The Fish Market: Inside the Big-Money Battle for the Ocean and Your Dinner Plate.](#)" Many FLC members were featured in this book or helped inform her thinking for it.

What's Next for the FLC?

As the backbone organization for the FLC, the NAMA team has been reaching out to many of you in the FLC to hear about your vision and hopes for this Collaborative and determine what next steps will ensure we look back at 2018 as a more connected and more unified collaborative. With this in mind, there are two concrete items we're working on rolling out this year: an all-encompassing outreach plan and an FLC Assembly in the Winter.

Outreach Plan

Now that the narrative and values for the FLC have been finalized, we want to hear from you all, take stock of the moment, and learn what we can be doing better in our role as backbone support. We're working to finalize this plan, and you will be hearing from us soon on next steps.

Over the last 10 years, the FLC has ebbed and flowed through many different structures, members, and has served many different purposes. Following the FLC Assembly in 2014 we heard from the network that a set of values and narrative would help expand our common ground, orient and align with new collaborators, provide a 'north star' for direction, and help folks outside the FLC understand our work. Now that this process has been completed, we want to ensure there is alignment from within the network, and begin to identify priorities and opportunities we can seize moving forward.

Winter FLC Assembly

We've been putting FLC Assembly's on hold for the past few years to complete the process of creating a shared set of values and narrative, but with that phase complete, we think an assembly is in order!

Following the outreach we'll be doing in the next few months, we'll be asking you all to join a planning committee to officially get the Fall FLC assembly rolling!

Upcoming Events

The events below are at the time of this writing. Check out the Events page of our website for updates throughout the year and be sure to let us know of any important upcoming events you want your peers to know about.

◆ [Slow Fish San Francisco](#) | April 14-16 | San Francisco, CA

◆ [Boston Local Food Festival](#) | Sept. 16 | Boston, MA

- ◆ [2018 Local Specialty Crop & Local Food Trade Show](#) | March 1 | Boston, MA
- ◆ [2018 NH Food Alliance Statewide Gathering](#) | March 9 | New London, NH
- ◆ [National Farm to Cafeteria Conference](#) | April 26 | Cincinnati, OH
- ◆ [Commonbound 2018](#) | June 22-25 | St. Louis, MO

Job Opportunities

- ◆ Executive Director - National Family Farm Coalition
- ◆ Communications Director - Food Solutions New England
- ◆ Executive Director - Alaska Marine Conservation Council
- ◆ Director of Development - Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries
- ◆ Conference Manager - Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group
- ◆ NY Sea Grant - Ocean and Marine Outreach Coordinator

Happy 2018 from NAMA

Ten years ago when NAMA was going through a transition, we interviewed a lot of our allies and some of our foes to understand what we needed to do better. The suggestion that rose to the top was better, stronger, and more diverse collaborative strategies that build our collective power. The Fish Locally Collaborative was born with that feedback in mind. What began with a couple of dozen people has grown to the community we have today. Our intention was to deliberately build a network that was looking far in the horizon while it was nimble enough to respond to urgent and timely situations.

Today, we are honored to serve as the backbone for the FLC. We are committed to the growth and expansion of this multi-stakeholder, decentralized network that is working to implement community-based fishermen's call for ecosystem and community-based fisheries management and marine conservation strategies. We thank all of you who took the leap of faith 10 years ago, and to those who have joined us along the RevolOceanary Road since. A BIG thank you to NAMA's generous donors and funders who allow us to do this work. We owe you all so much gratitude for believing in our values, our mission, and our work and how we work. We can't thank you enough for continuing to support our work.

Wishing you all a Happy 2018,

Amy, Boyce, Brett, Cynthia, Julianna, Niaz, and NAMA's board of trustees