

# The Lobster Conservancy

*Sustaining a thriving lobster fishery through science, community and education*

Late Winter 2015

Dear Volunteers and Friends of The Lobster Conservancy,

The Lobster Conservancy's mission is to strive to sustain a thriving lobster fishery through science, community and education. Our newsletter keeps members and volunteers informed of recent research, education and outreach activities – and in this case, perhaps, survival skills...

So many of you have called and written to check in. So many of you know it's been a tough winter out here on Friendship Long Island. I thank you and send these thoughts and photos so you can get some idea of what it's been like.

In a nutshell, it's been fine, it's been beautiful. I am happy and blessed to have this rich experience. As lovely as it is, I've had just about enough of it and am almost ready for spring.

To all of those who have camps in Lobster Gut, your dwellings are fine. I made it over there on Sunday. No losses that I could see.

Also want to share a couple of videos. Check for them elsewhere. I do not know how to insert them here.



Coast Guard ice breaker showed up this morning. Took a couple of runs back and forth and then disappeared. Kind of a disappointment. As soon as it left the ice filled in again. Photo by moi.

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It's a bird, it's a plane, no, it's super pilot coming in to drop off a care package or two. Took me half the morning to find the second package that had jumped off old school house roof, had sticks impaled into it, covered in snow, but the contents survived!



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Contents of the first package found. Sula is fascinated!



Handsome Red Fox island neighbor looks on and wonders, "Is there enough to share with me?"

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Camp on Little Morse Island, aka “Lobster Learning Center” sitting pretty.



Woods deep deep deep in snow.

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So far, still able to get to dug well to fetch water. Filled every container I have just in case ice takes over when melting begins. Much as I look forward to warmer weather, I dread the melting and freezing as rock solid ice that's coming.




And every day I check on my beloved boat and pray that she'll continue to float no matter what weather comes.

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Scene from my field site. More on February tides later.

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View of here from over there. Photo by Amy Brazier.



Yours in TLC and Friendship,

Diane F. Cowan, Ph.D.  
Senior Scientist

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