

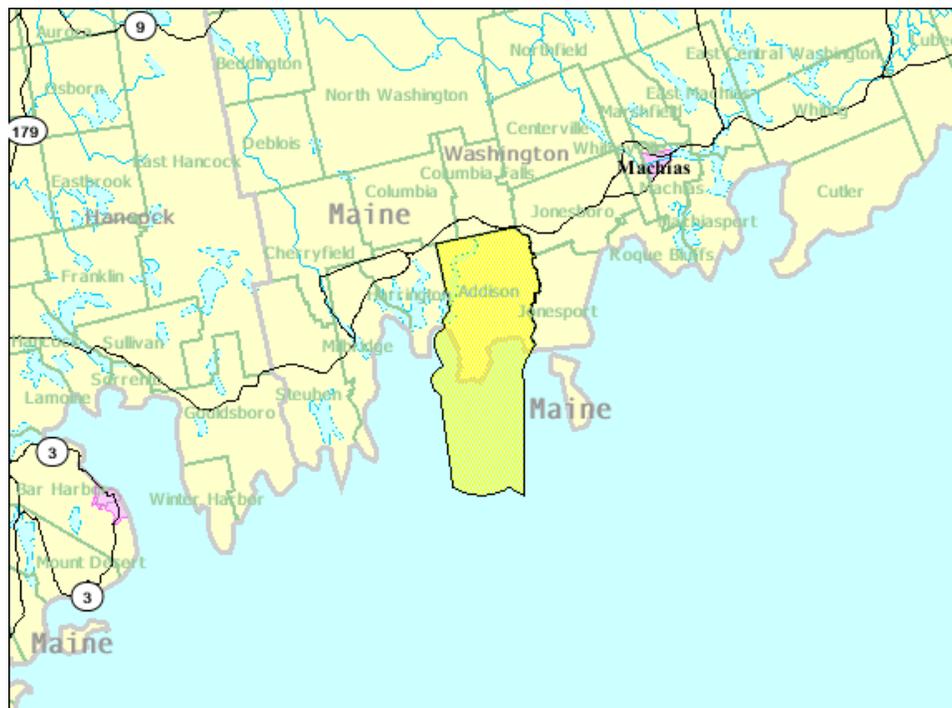
ADDISON, ME¹

Community Profile²

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Regional orientation

Addison, Maine (44.61° N, 67.74° W) is located in the western part of Washington County on Pleasant Bay (State of Maine 2004a). It consists of a large peninsula surrounded by the estuaries of the Pleasant River. Addison is located close to the Canadian border in the Downeast Maine region. Addison is approximately 35,000 acres in land area with an additional 27,000 acres of water. The town has more than 107.7 miles of coastline (State of Maine 2004b).



Map 1. Location of Addison, ME (US Census Bureau 2000a)

Historical/Background

Addison, a town in Washington County, Maine, was incorporated on February 14, 1797 and named for the 18th century English author Joseph Addison. Before its incorporation, Addison was known as Plantation Number Six west of Machias (State of Maine 2004a). Historical documents indicate that initial settlers were likely to have come from Martha's Vineyard, an island off of Cape Cod, looking to take advantage of the area's grasslands,

¹ These community profiles have been created to serve as port descriptions in Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) for fisheries management actions. They also provide baseline information from which to begin research for Social Impact Assessments (SIAs). Further, they provide information relevant to general community impacts for National Standard 8 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and information on minorities and low income populations for Executive Order (E.O.) 12898 on Environmental Justice.

² For purposes of citation please use the following template: "Community Profile of *Town, ST*. Prepared under the auspices of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center. For further information contact Lisa.L.Colburn@noaa.gov."

fisheries, and farming grounds (State of Maine 2004a). In the 1830s there were dozens of vessels built in Addison and neighboring towns, launched on the Pleasant River. There was also considerable trade in lumber, granite, and fish in the area at the time (D'Entremont 1997). Addison's highest population was in 1860, when shipbuilding was an important industry. Throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s, Addison had a number of canneries which processed lobster, clams, sardines, and blueberries. None of these still exist. "In the late 1980s and early nineties the economy of Addison is as Louis Ploch has characterized it, 'A variation on the theme of getting by... through a skillful and, in some cases, an ingenious combination of clamming, lobstering, worming and wreathing'." (State of Maine 2004b).

Demographics³

According to Census data (US Census Bureau 2000a), Addison had a total population of 1209 in 2000, up 8.5% from a reported population of 1114 in 1990 (US Census Bureau 1990). Of this 2000 total, 49.2% were males and 50.8% were females. The median age was 40.3 years and 73.4% of the population was 21 years or older while 17.2% were 62 or older. The town estimates in its comprehensive plan that an additional 684 residents may reside in Addison seasonally (State of Maine 2004b).

The population structure for Addison (Figure 1) shows the greatest percentages of residents were in the 40-49 and 50-59 age groups. Addison experienced the decline in males often seen for the 20-29 age bracket, but the percentage of women did not drop by much. Women also greatly outnumbered men in the 30-39 age bracket, but men outnumbered women for residents aged 40-49. Overall, Addison's population has been aging, and the number of school-aged children has been declining (State of Maine 2004b).

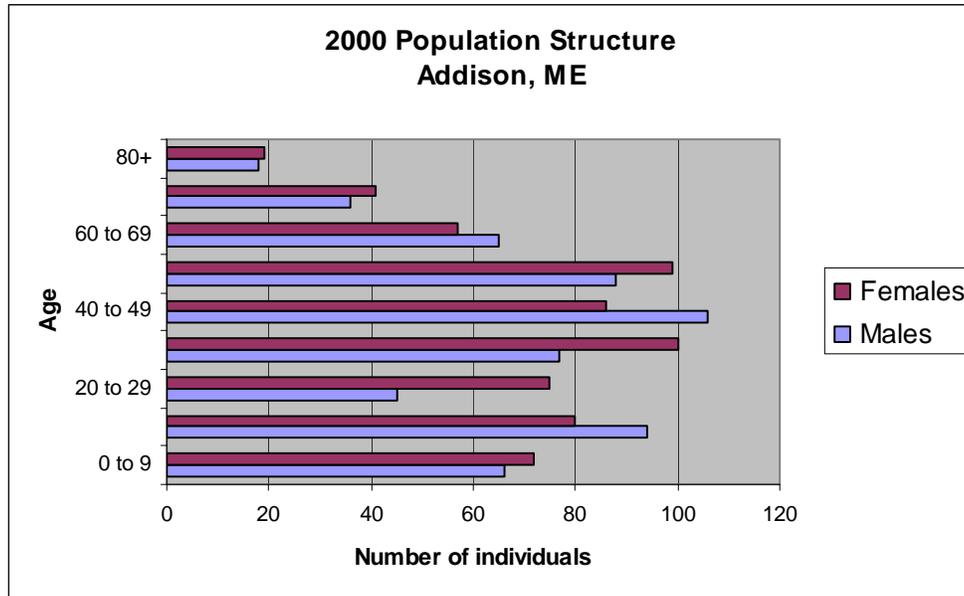


Figure 1. Addison's population structure by sex in 2000

³ While mid-term estimates are available for some larger communities, data from the 2000 Census are the only data universally available for the communities being profiled in the Northeast. Thus for cross-comparability we have used 2000 data even though these data may have changed significantly since 2000 for at least some communities.

The majority of the population is white (98.1%), with 0.7% of residents black or African American, 0.2% Asian, 0.7% Native American, and 0.2% Pacific Islander or Hawaiian (Figure 2). Only 0.2% of the population identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino (Figure 3). Residents traced their backgrounds to a number of different ancestries including: English (37.8%), Irish (16.7%), French (5.9%), and German (5.1%). With regard to region of birth, 74.5% were born in Maine, 24.2% were born in a different state, and 1.0% were born outside the US (including 0.2% who were not US citizens).

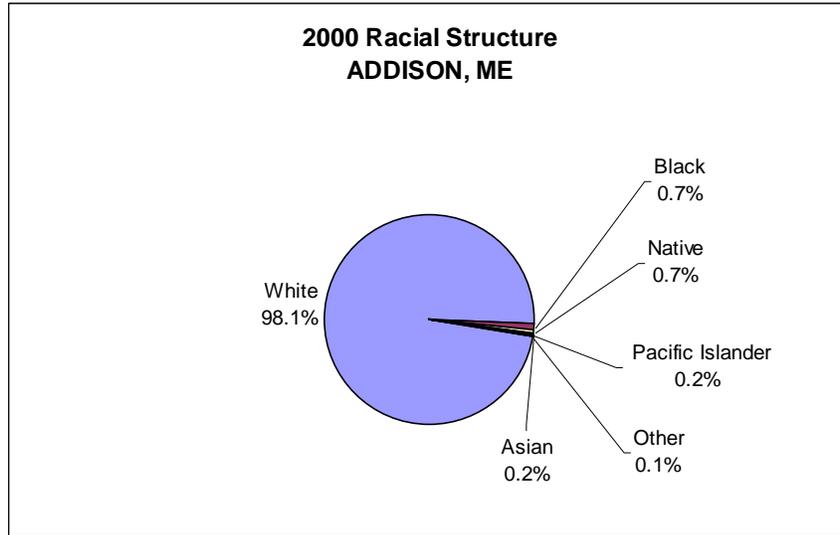


Figure 2. Racial Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

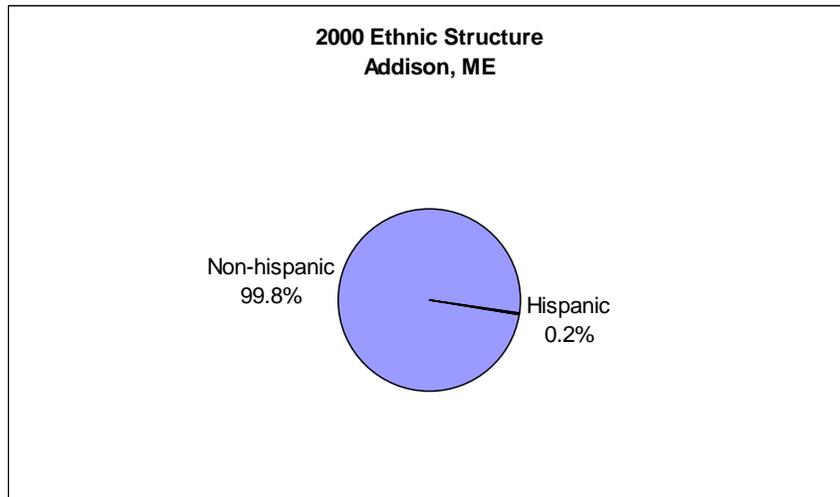


Figure 3. Ethnic Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

For 98.7% of the population, only English was spoken in the home, leaving 1.3% in homes where a language other than English was spoken, including 0.2% of the population who spoke English less than “very well” (US Census Bureau 2000).

Of the population 25 years and over, 76.8% were high school graduates or higher, and 12.6% had a bachelor’s degree or higher. Of the population 25 years and over, 8.9% did not reach ninth grade, 14.3% attended some high school but did not graduate, 43.1% completed high

school, 16.9% had some college with no degree, 4.2% received their associate's degree, 7.5% earned their bachelor's degree, and 5.0% received either a graduate or professional degree.

Although religious percentages are not available through the US Census, according to the Association of Religion Data Archive (ARDA) in 2000 the religion with the highest number of congregations and adherents in Washington County was Catholicism, with 12 congregations and 4,155 adherents. Other prominent congregations in the county were the United Methodist Church (15 with 1,301 adherents), and the United Church of Christ (9 with 577 adherents). The total number of adherents to any religion was down 3.2% from 1990 (ARDA 2000).

Issues/Processes

Maine's environmental, cultural, and economic customs have become threatened as fish stocks have been depleted as a result of excessive fishing (Snowe 2004). Commercial fishing access is not currently a problem in Addison; however, higher taxes, development pressures, and increased conflict from tourism and recreational uses of the waterfront are issues facing fishermen in Addison (State of Maine 2004b).

In 2006, the State of Maine passed the Working Waterfront Tax Law, to address the problem of working waterfront property being heavily taxed based on its projected market value. The goal of this tax is "to encourage the preservation of working waterfront land and to prevent the conversion of working waterfront land to other uses as the result of economic pressures caused by the assessment of that land for purposes of property taxation." The law requires the tax assessor to value the property based on what it is worth as working waterfront land, rather than what its market value would be if it were sold and converted to residential or other uses (State of Maine 2005).

Cultural attributes

Addison hosts an annual celebration called Addison Days (State of Maine 2004b). Additional information was not available.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Current Economy

According to the 2000 Census⁴, 58.9% (574 individuals) of the total population 16 years of age and over were in the labor force (Figure 4), of which 3.9% were unemployed, 0.2% were in the Armed Forces, and 54.8% were employed.

According to US Census Bureau (2000), jobs in the census grouping which includes agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining accounted for 84 positions or 15.7% of all jobs. Self-employed workers – a category where fishermen might be found – accounted for 120 positions or 22.5% of jobs. Educational, health and social services (23.6%), retail trade (13.7%), manufacturing (9.9%), and construction (9.2%) were the primary industries.

According to the town's comprehensive plan, there were 191 commercial fishermen living in Addison in 2004. Addison has two significant employers: Addison Point Development (job training; 20-49 full-time employees); and Daniel W Merritt Elementary School (20-49 full-time employees). Many of Addison's residents are likely to commute to some of the region's larger employers (State of Maine 2004b).

⁴ Again, Census data from 2000 are used because they are universally available and offer cross-comparability among communities. Some statistics, particularly median home price, are likely to have changed significantly since 2000.

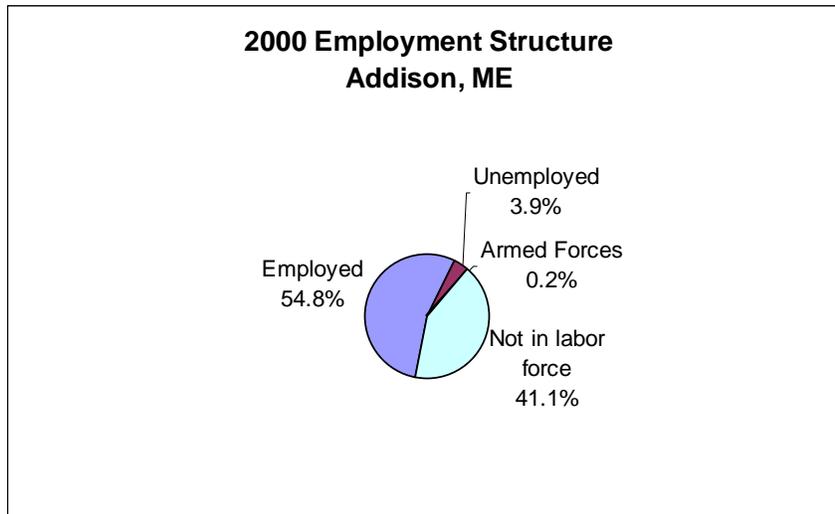


Figure 4. Employment Structure in 2000 (US Census Bureau 2000)

Median 2000 household income in Addison was \$26,083 (up 53.2% from \$17,028 in 1990 [US Census Bureau 1990]) and median per capita income was \$15,951. For full-time year round workers, males made approximately 23.3% more per year than females.

The average family in Addison consisted of 2.83 persons. With respect to poverty, 42.3% of families (up from 17.1% in 1990 [US Census Bureau 1990]) and 20.4% of individuals were below the US Census poverty threshold. This threshold is \$8,794 for individuals and ranges from \$11,239 through \$35,060 for families, depending on number of persons (2-9 [US Census Bureau 2000b]). In 2000, 59.3% of all families of any size earned less than \$35,000 per year.

In 2000 Addison had a total of 723 housing units, of which 67.6% were occupied and 78.7% were detached one-unit homes. Close to one third (30.2%) of these homes were built before 1940. Mobile homes accounted for 16.7% of housing units; 89.3% of detached units had between 2 and 9 rooms. In 2000, the median cost for a home in this area was \$76,700. Of vacant housing units, 76.9% were used for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use. Of occupied units, 2.9% were renter occupied.

The town of Addison is demonstrating a trend moving in the direction of seasonally occupied housing rather than year-round housing (State of Maine 2004b).

Government

Addison is governed by selectmen and an executive secretary (State of Maine 2004b). Oscar Look is a harbormaster and a selectman in Addison (MCP 2003).

Fishery involvement in the government

Addison has a Shellfish Conservation Committee which is working to improve the health of the town's clam flats, and a Shellfish Conservation Ordinance, last updated in 2003, which lays out the town's management plan and its commercial and recreational licensing practices (State of Maine 2004b). Addison has seven waterfront areas zoned for Commercial Fisheries/ Maritime Activity to protect them from competing uses (State of Maine 2004b). Addison also has a harbor master.

Institutional

Fishing associations

The [Maine Lobstermen's Association](#) (MLA) was founded in 1954, and works to protect the lobster resource and the lobstermen's way of life. The association was founded by lobstermen with a goal of empowering Maine's lobster industry by representing lobstermen with a united front. The MLA is the largest commercial fishing industry group on the east coast, and represents the interests of 1200 lobstermen.

Fishing assistance centers

The [Sunrise County Economic Council](#), located in the nearby town of Machias, has worked with fishermen to develop a grant program to help the small home-based crab pickers. This council is also available to provide assistance to other sectors of the fishing industry in Downeast Maine.⁵

The Working Waterfront Coalition is a statewide collaboration of various industry associations, non-profits, and government agencies with the goal to support Maine's working waterfronts. The [Working Waterfront Access Pilot Program](#), administered by the Department of Marine Resources, provides money to applicants such as municipalities, fishing co-ops, private commercial fisheries businesses and more, ranging from \$7,000 to \$475,000. The intention of the program is to preserve commercial fisheries working waterfronts and to help secure property for these businesses. As of December 2007, the \$2 million pilot program has reportedly supported over 400 jobs, 194 boats, and assured access to clam flats, parking, wharfage and fisheries in six towns (Maine DMR 2005). Voters [approved an additional \\$3 million](#) to continue the program in 2007.

Other fishing related organizations

The [Maine Fishermen's Forum](#) was founded in 1976, and its goal is to provide continuous opportunities to educate the public and the fishing industry about marine resource issues and fisheries, as well as to provide a platform for discussion and decision making. The forum also holds an annual three-day event which focuses awareness on issues that affect the commercial fishing industry. The [Downeast Resource Conservation and Development Area](#) is an agency working to provide local leadership on conservation and development projects in Downeast Maine. They were working to provide public access, boat launch, and docking facilities in Addison (State of Maine 2006).

The [Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education](#) recently opened a cold-water research institute in nearby Beals where they will experiment with various aquaculture projects. The institute will be a field research site for the University of Maine at Machias, and will draw students and academics to the area to the lab. They are also developing a clam farm in Beals (State of Maine 2004b).

Physical

Addison is located on the southern coast of Washington County, and is 18½ miles west by southwest of Machias. Addison is bordered on the north by Columbia, east by Jonesport and Jonesboro, and west by Harrington. Addison is home to the Indian River, the Pleasant Bay and River, Cape Split, Cape Split Harbor, and Moose Neck (Varney 1886). Addison has two nature preserves managed by The Nature Conservancy. East Plummer Island is densely forested and

⁵ pers. comm., Jennifer Brewer, Clark University, 950 Main Street, Worcester MA 01610.

home to bald eagles. The island is regulated by the State Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (State of Maine 2004a). The closest airport is Machias Valley Airport in Machias, about 15 miles away. Addison is roughly 70 miles from Bangor, 62 miles from Bar Harbor, 197 miles from Portland, and 303 miles northeast of Boston (Mapquest 2007).

There is a boat ramp, dock, and parking for boat trailers at the Addison Town Landing. It is located off Route I on the Ridge Road. There is another boat ramp at the South Addison Town Landing. This landing has a paved boat ramp, a dock, outhouse and a parking lot (State of Maine 2007). There are a total of four public landings in Addison and approximately 168 public and private mooring areas. Commercial fishing access in Addison is at one of eight commercial or private waterfront facilities, five of which are dedicated exclusively to commercial fishing (State of Maine 2004b).

INVOLVEMENT IN NORTHEAST FISHERIES⁶

Commercial

Al's Seafood is a certified interstate seafood shipper located in Addison, Maine. They were certified by regulatory authorities to ship shellfish, which includes all edible species of oysters, clams, mussels and scallops, throughout the United States (FDA 2007). Marsh Cove Lobster Co., Inc. is a certified lobster dealer in Addison (NEFOP 2006). Addison residents hold 151 state commercial fishing licenses, and 40 clam licenses; the sixth highest number of licenses in Washington County (State of Maine 2004b).

“The number of fishing boats registered to Addison residents has declined over the same period from 267 in 1998 to 253 in 2002. However the commercial lobster tags registered to Addison residents has increased substantially since 1998 – from 37,944 to 51,302. Thus a smaller fleet is harvesting more lobster.” (State of Maine 2004b)

Marine harvesting operations in Addison in 2002 included: fishing for elvers with fyke nets (4 licenses); green crab (2 licenses); lobster and crab (278 licenses combined); digging for marine worms (84 licenses); mussels (2 licenses); mahogany quahogs (18 licenses); scallop diving (14 licenses); scallop dragging (44 licenses); sea urchin divers (44 licenses); sea urchin dragners (22 licenses); and seaweed harvesting (12 licenses) among others (State of Maine 2004b). Addison also has a sea cucumber processing facility (State of Maine 2004b).

The most valuable species landed in Addison in 2006 was lobster, followed by surf clams and ocean quahogs, “other” species, and herring. The value of lobster in 2006 was significantly

⁶ In reviewing the commercial landings data several factors need to be kept in mind. 1) While both federal and state landings are included, some states provide more detailed data to NMFS than others. For example, shellfish may not be included or data may be reported only by county and not by port. 2) Some communities did not have individual port codes until more recently. Before individual port codes were assigned, landings from those ports were coded at the county level or as an aggregate of two geographically close small ports. Where landings were coded at the county level they cannot be sorted to individual ports for those earlier years, e.g., prior to 2000. 3) Where aggregated codes were used, those aggregate codes may still exist and be in use alongside the new individual codes. Here the landings which are still assigned to the aggregate port code cannot be sorted into the individual ports, so port level data are only those which used the individual port code. 4) Even when individual port codes exist, especially for small ports, landings may be coded at the county level. Here again it is impossible to disaggregate these to a port level, making the port level landings incomplete. 5) In all these cases, the per port data in this profile may under report the total level of landings to the port, though all landings are accounted for in the overall NMFS database.

higher than the average value of lobster landings for the years 1997-2006, as was the value of surf clam and ocean quahog landings. The level of port landings generally experienced an increasing trend from 1997-2006 and overall was more than the value of landings for home ported vessels, indicating that many of the vessels landing their catch in Addison do list Addison as their home port. The number of vessels with Addison as their home port changed only slightly from 1997-2006, while the number of vessels with owners living in Addison increased from a low of 16 in 1997 to a high of 24 in 2003.

Landings by Species

Table 1. Rank Value of Landings for Federally Managed Groups

Species	Rank Value of Average Landings from 1997-2006
Lobster	1
Surf Clams, Ocean Quahog	2
Other ⁷	3
Herring	4
Largemesh Groundfish ⁸	5
Monkfish	6

(Note: Only rank value is provided because value information is confidential in ports with fewer than three vessels or fewer than three dealers, or where one dealer predominates in a particular species and would therefore be identifiable.)

Vessels by Year⁹

Table 2. Federal Vessel Permits between 1997-2006

Year	# Vessels (home ported)	# Vessels (owner's city)
1997	17	16
1998	15	19
1999	14	18
2000	13	20
2001	15	20
2002	15	22
2003	18	24
2004	19	22
2005	18	19
2006	19	21

(Note: # Vessels home ported = No. of permitted vessels with location as homeport, # Vessels (owner's city) = No. of permitted vessels with location as owner residence¹⁰)

⁷ "Other" species includes any species not accounted for in a federally managed group.

⁸ Largemesh groundfish: cod, winter flounder, yellowtail flounder, American plaice, sand-dab flounder, haddock, white hake, redfish, and pollock

⁹ Numbers of vessels by owner's city and homeport are as reported by the permit holder on permit application forms. These may not correspond to the port where a vessel lands or even spends the majority of its time when docked.

¹⁰ The Owner-City from the permit files is technically the address at which the owner receives mail concerning their permitted vessels, which could reflect the actual location of residence, the mailing address as distinct from residence, owner business location, or the address at which a subsidiary receives mail about the permits.

Recreational

Recreational shellfishing is a popular activity in Addison. Ice fishing is also common during the winter months. Much public access to the water occurs on private property (State of Maine 2004b).

Subsistence

Information on subsistence fishing in Addison was either unavailable through secondary data collection or the practice does not exist.

FUTURE

The government of Maine has decided to include herring weirs with mobile gear for the management of herring, concentrating on closed seasons for the purpose of allowing herring to spawn. However, herring spawn away from the weirs, so it should not be much of an issue. It is also difficult to remove the weirs, and some speculate that this legislation could end the use of weirs in Maine. Washington County is the only area affected because that is where the herring weirs are located (Hall-Arbor et al. 2001). Addison has plans to build a municipal pier in the town to support the town's commercial fisheries. The town is also considering property tax incentives that support water dependent uses (State of Maine 2004b).

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