

**Press Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

**Sebastian Belle, Executive Director of the Maine Aquaculture Association – (207) 622-0136**

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**HEADLINE: MAINE AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION LAUNCHES NEW VIDEO PROJECT: THE FACES OF MAINE’S WORKING WATERFRONT**

**BODY:**

The Maine Aquaculture Association has announced the release of a new video series titled, “The Faces of Maine’s Working Waterfront.” The videos tell the stories of aquatic farmers in Maine, underscoring how aquaculture complements existing marine industries and works to diversify and strengthen our coastal economy.

The first film released in the series features Cooke Aquaculture, a family-owned company that farms Atlantic salmon in the Down East region, creating hundreds of jobs and producing sustainable, healthy, local seafood. The Cooke video highlights how declining fisheries in Maine led to commercial fishermen leaving the waterfront in search of mill jobs. Dave Morang was impacted by these changes, but working for Cooke gave him the chance to work on the water again and “live the American dream.”

The second video in the series features Josh Conover, a long time Islesboro lobsterman who owns and operates Marshall Cove Mussel farm with his wife Shey. The mussel farm is an environmentally and economically sustainable method of protein production, improving water quality and keeping 4-5 workers employed year-round. For Shey and Josh, the mussel farm helps to ensure jobs on the water for themselves and their two children for decades to come.

The association is planning to release more videos in the coming months, which can be viewed on the Maine Aquaculture Association’s [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages as well as their [YouTube channel](#).

The Maine Aquaculture Association (est. 1978) is a non-profit trade association that advocates for Maine’s aquatic farmers (including shellfish, finfish, & sea vegetable producers) at the state, federal, and international levels. For more information about the association, please visit [www.maineaqua.org](http://www.maineaqua.org).

