



March 3, 2025

I'd like to share my support for the value of MDF's work around the state. My relationship with MDF comes through their role as the project manager on SEA Maine, the first phase of which I co-chaired with funding from the EDA. This cross-sector initiative developed a strategic economic development roadmap for the seafood sector as a whole (heritage fisheries and aquaculture). As co-chair of this project, I worked closely with the MDF project managers, and I couldn't have done it without them. From handling logistical details to listening, facilitating, and building relationships, MDF was at the center of every aspect of the project. They brought their experience in cross-sector work, their relationships, and their skill at facilitating and supporting industry to SEA Maine and helped ensure its success.

MDF plays a critical and unique role in the state as a nonpartisan, unaffiliated organization that can work across sectors and create connections between government agencies, industry and industry associations, research institutions, and other nonprofits. Sustaining (and expanding!) MDF's ability to work on SEA Maine and other worthy projects around the state will be a benefit for the state of Maine.

Curt Brown
Former SEA Maine co-chair
Marine Biologist, Ready Seafood
Co-Chair, Coastal and Marine Working Group, Maine Climate Council
Commissioner, Maine Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission
Board Member, Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative
Executive Committee Member, Lobster Institute