



**Town of Benton  
Maine  
2023-2027 Alewife Agreement  
Ronald Weeks and the Town of Benton**

This Agreement is entered into this March 21, 2022 by and between the Town of Benton (“Town”) and Ronald Weeks (“Contractor”).

WHEREAS, the Town desires to contract with the Contractor to provide services to support the Alewives Harvest.

Therefore, it is mutually agreed by the parties relating to this agreement as follows:

1. **Relationship of the Parties:** Nothing herein shall be deemed to constitute either party as a partner, agent, or representative of the other party, or to create any fiduciary relationship between the parties.
2. **Term:** This Contract shall commence on **March 30, 2023** and concluding after the 2027 season, unless terminated earlier as provided in this Agreement, with option for renewals upon the parties’ mutual written agreement.

This Agreement will also be dependent on the Maine Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) giving the Town permission to harvest alewives.

3. **General Terms:** Contractor agrees to the following in support of the services provided:
  - a. all State laws and Rules are to be followed,
  - b. Contractor will follow all regulations in the Town’s current annual Alewife Ordinance, as approved by the MDMR,
  - c. a report shall be filed at the Benton Town Office before 4 PM on Friday of each week of the harvest, providing the Town with the number of alewives taken along with payment for the weekly catch, and
  - d. The rate of payment for alewives is to be 1/3 (.333) of the selling price, which is currently between \$20 and \$25 per bushel. Price is to be reviewed and negotiated prior to harvesting each year. If suckers are harvested the rate of payment will be determined by agreement of Mr. Weeks and the Select Board.
4. **Harvesting Change Procedure:** In the event that harvesting procedures change, with the Town investing substantially in equipment or property, the terms of this contract may be renegotiated.
5. **Fencing:** In addition to the terms above, it is agreed that no poultry fence or snow fence shall be used in the river.
6. **Alewife Harvesters of Maine Compensation:** It is further agreed that Contractor and the Town of Benton will contribute the value of one bushel of alewives per harvest day to the Alewife Harvesters of Maine in the general interest of sustaining alewife harvesting in the State of Maine.

**Contractor:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald C. Weeks, Contractor,  
Po Box 963, Jefferson, Maine 04348

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

**Select Board:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Dixon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robin Cyr

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date