



Maine's Blue Economy Task Force

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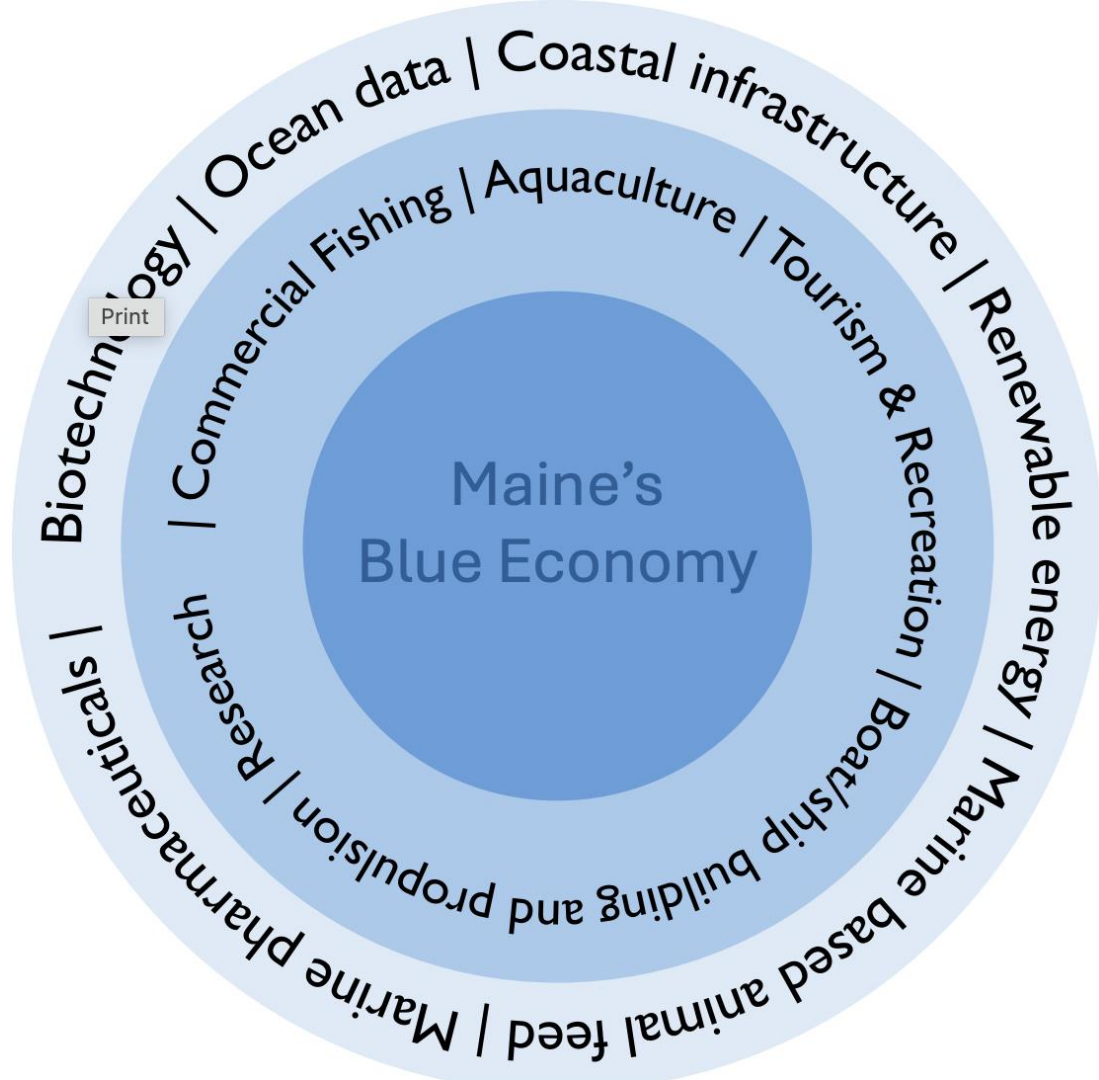
Legislative Requirements – BETF 1.0

- Convene a Task Force - membership requirements enumerated
- Conduct consultations with specified stakeholder groups
- Produce a report including:
 - Description/definition of Blue Economy
 - Review of other coastal states' and countries' blue economy development
 - Identification of sectors with existing roadmaps and reports (i.e. aquaculture, SEAMaine, offshore wind)
 - Review of opportunities for sectors that do not have a roadmap
 - Recommendations for how the state can develop the blue economy
- Deliver report to Legislature by Feb 01, 2025

Definition: Maine's Blue Economy

Maine's blue economy means a sustainable and equitable ocean economy that optimizes innovation to expand economic opportunities in our coastal communities and to solve pressing societal needs. It is grounded in Maine's unique marine heritage, research expertise, and location.

*For purposes of this description, the Task Force further defines “**sustainable and equitable**” to mean practices that support economic growth while maintaining or improving the health of marine ecosystems and without negatively impacting social, environmental, and cultural aspects of the community.*





Three Key Themes

- **INNOVATION** - The blue economy is inherently forward looking. It encourages new industries to emerge and existing industries to modernize and become more efficient.
- **COLLABORATION** - Maine has many organizations spread along its lengthy coastline. Without a clear single hub location, cooperation and collaboration will be key to increasing our competitiveness.
- **INVESTMENT** - Maine is currently behind other states when it comes to public and private investment but we have the capacity and the opportunity to close the gap.

Legislative Requirements – BETF 2.0

- Reconvene Task Force - membership requirements enumerated
- Focus on two key recommendations:
 1. How to establish a Maine Center for the Blue Economy
 2. Key components needed for workforce development
- Deliver report to Legislature by Dec 03, 2025



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