

Our Terms of Service and Privacy Policy have changed.

By continuing to use this site, you are agreeing to the new [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Service](#).

CNN Money

U.S. +

Business

Markets

Tech

Media

Personal Finance

Small Biz

Luxury

stock tickers

No shrimp today: Maine's waters are warming and it's costing fishermen money

by [Shannon Gupta](#) @shannonfgupta

April 21, 2017: 10:29 AM ET

Recommend 6K



Fisherman David Goethel, right, hauls shrimp with mate Igors Makasin in 2008, before Maine's shrimp ban.

David Goethel wishes he could retire.

At 63, he's been fishing off the Gulf of Maine for over 34 years. Shrimp used to be plentiful there. Back in 2000, Goethel remembers seeing 100 commercial boats out in the harbor. Now, he's just one of a handful of local fisherman struggling to make a living.

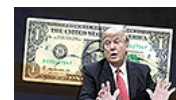
"There was life on the docks, there were people working," lifelong fisherman Arnold Gamage, 64, agrees. "Now, it looks like a ghost town."

Maine's fishing industry has been declining for years due to factors like overfishing and increased regulation, but there's another culprit eating away at profits: Maine's ocean waters are warming -- and it's killing northern shrimp.

Goethel, Gamage and other fishermen used to look forward to shrimping as a way to augment their income in the cold New England winters.

"Now, I see a lot of those same people, they've got 4-wheel trucks and they're trying to plow snow to take in some kind of income," Goethel says.

Social Surge - What's Trending



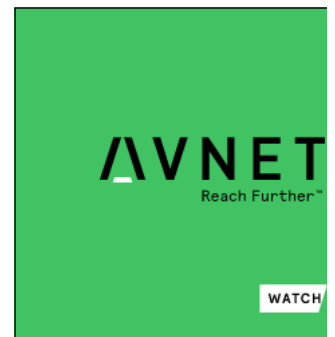
Trump's new | Americans are shopping



No shrimp to Maine's water warming and costing fisher money



Bebe is closing stores, the late casualty in retail



Advertisement

Mortgage & Savings

Powered by L

Regulators at the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission banned commercial shrimping in 2014. The goal was to give northern shrimp a chance to repopulate. While the ban has helped, regulators are still worried about the species' survival.

"You get stronger survival rates with cooler temperatures," explains Max Appelman, the commission's fishery coordinator.

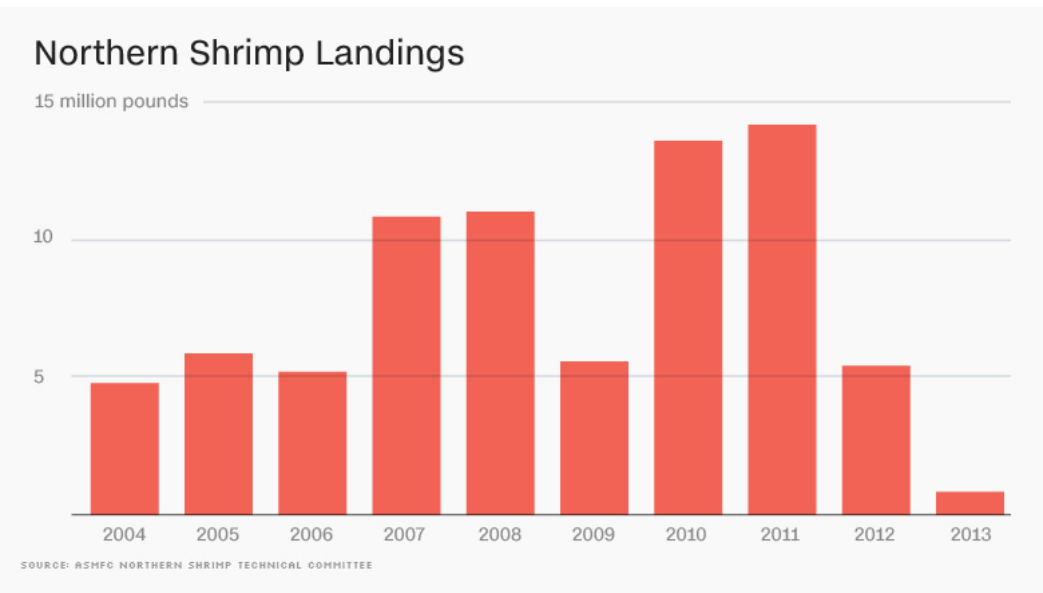
Why is the Gulf of Maine warming?

Scientists aren't certain, but Appelman and other experts suspect climate change is playing a role.

The world's oceans in general are warming, partly because the atmosphere is getting hotter and oceans absorb that heat. But there's something particularly fishy going on in the Gulf. It's warming faster than most other places on earth.



Regulators measure the size of Maine's Northern Shrimp.



"We don't have any experience with this type of warming," explains James Manning, an oceanographer at the Northeast Fisheries Science Center. He's been monitoring the Gulf's deep temperatures for the past decade.

It's not just the ocean's temperature that's hurting the shrimp -- the currents are also changing. That's because warmer temperatures are causing icebergs to melt and alter the ocean's salt levels. When that happens, it triggers a change in currents.

All this is bad news for shrimp. They're used to traveling to Maine on specific ocean currents where fishermen like Goethel can find them. Changing currents mean those shrimp could wind up far from Maine, explains Manning.

Fishermen's wallets are hurting

Shrimping used to account for around 30% of Goethel's income. While he recognizes that the ban is necessary, he still misses that extra cash.

Lifelong fisherman Gary Libby is also feeling the squeeze. He's been trying to sell his shrimp boat but no one is buying. He's lost between 30% to 40% of his annual income since the ban was instituted.

Mortgage	Personal Loans	Cre
Loan Type		Rate
30-yr fixed		3.75%
15-yr fixed		3.25%
5/1 ARM		3.13%
Loan Purpose		Loan Amount
Refinance 5/1 ARM		\$225,000
Purchase 5/1 ARM		\$350,000

Get Personalized Rates



Terms & C

Paid Content



The Best Sleep We've Ever He
Excedrin



If You Are An / Born Between and 1966 Che
EverQuote



Bucking the Ti Shop Innovati
Continue to Di
Tile Shop on Star Tril



Do This Before Next Mortgage
Payment (It's C
Bills.com

Hot List



China's first bi clears final hu
before flying



Would you bu Chinese car c
Trumpchi?



Uptake Techn CEO: Our tech
could have de



Why there wa page anti-Elor
ad in your Sur paper



Fisherman Gary Libby's dog takes a bite out of the once-plentiful shrimp catch.

"With no shrimp season for fishermen in the state of Maine the struggle continues," Libby says. "I wish I could just catch a few shrimp during the winter each year."

While Goethel, Gamage and Libby fish year-round for other catch, like cod and flounder, Goethel is worried for those species as well. They, too, are feeling the effects of the warming Gulf.

Flounder and cod like a specific temperature range, and if the Gulf continues to warm, they'll likely move to deeper waters where commercial fisherman can't catch them.

A bleak future

Manning suspects the Gulf of Maine will continue to warm but hopes it won't at its current rate.

"I'd be afraid to predict it continue the way it is," Manning says. Goethel, Gamage and Libby are in the same boat. They're hoping colder temperatures will make a comeback, not only for the sake of their businesses, but for their communities.

"The people in Maine just love shrimp," Gamage says. "There is no shrimp in the world that can come close to comparing to Maine shrimp."

It's Climate Change Week at [CNN MoneyStream](#). For more stories about how global warming is impacting business, follow the Climate Change stream in the CNN MoneyStream app.

CNNMoney (New York)
First published April 19, 2017: 11:08 AM ET

Paid Content

Recommended by



The Absolute Best Sheets You Will Ever Find. Period.
Business Insider



More Than the Beast Everyone Expects: Get the Dell XPS 15
Windows Central



Millennial Employee Turn-Offs: Outdated Tech at the Office
Oracle



Venezuela only \$10 billion left reserves

Most Popular Videos



Theranos four From billionaire 'nothing'



Elon Musk pre population im



These hackers specialize in manipulating



Starbucks off employees fre advice on Tru travel ban

CNNMoney Sponsors

TOP TOOLS FOR LESS



NextAdvisor

P

Pay no interest until June 20: this card

Top 7 credit cards for those v excellent credit

The best credit cards for 201

10 cards charging 0% interes 2018

The highest paying cash back has arrived

The Motley Fool

P

36-year-old CEO bets \$560,1 on 1 Stock

This stock could be like buyin Amazon for \$3.19

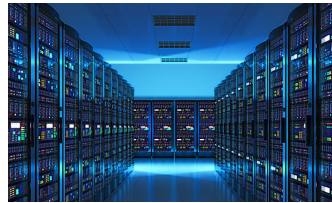
Legendary tech investor bold endorses one stock



Are We in the Middle of Another Housing Boom? Merrill Lynch Insights [Video]
Merrill Lynch



Don't Spend a Fortune on a Car: The 10 Most Affordable Vehicles of 2016
Kelley Blue Book



The Tesla Effect of Hyperconvergence
Nutanix

Motley Fool issues rare triple-alert

Apple quietly leases 5,000 ac abandoned military base

Paid Content

Scientists Can't Believe These Animals Survived Extinction *DailyForest*

How Old Are These Women? See How Much You Can Tell from Their Eyes *Daily Mail UK*

25 Places You Are Not Allowed To Visit Ever *theBroffessional*

Need a Portable and Potent Laptop? Get the Latitude 12 7280 *Laptop Mag*

More from CNN Money

The world's most valuable liquor company is now Chinese

CBB Recruiting 2017: Ranking 10 Best Classes After McDonald's All-American Game

Part of Bill O'Reilly's problem at Fox: Few people there actually liked him

Drunk Man Confronts Former MMA Fighter Outside a Walmart, With Unexpected Result

Recommended by

Paid Links

REVERSE MORTGAGE CALCULATOR

0% BALANCE TRANSFER CREDIT CARDS

BEST INVESTMENTS FOR RETIREMENT

5% INTEREST SAVINGS ACCOUNT

LIFE INSURANCE FOR SENIORS

AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE PLANS

BEST RETIREMENT CALCULATORS

TOP RATED MEDICARE PLANS

ALWAYS BE
BUYING LOW

LOWER THAN
TD AMERITRAD
AND E*TRADE



Advertisement



Contact Us

User Preferences

Closed Captioning

Content

Business

Markets

Investing

Economy

Tech

Personal Finance

Small Business

Luxury

Media

Video

Tools

Site Map

Interactive

Job Search

Real Estate Search

Loan Center

Calculators

Corrections

Market Data Alerts

News Alerts

Connect

My Account

Mobile Site & Apps

Facebook

Twitter

LinkedIn

YouTube

RSS Feed

Newslette

Google+

Most stock quote data provided by BATS. Market indices are shown in real time, except for the DJIA, which is delayed by two minutes. All times are ET. Disclaimer. Morningstar: © 2017 Mc Inc. All Rights Reserved. Factset: FactSet Research Systems Inc. 2017. All rights reserved. Chicago Mercantile Association: Certain market data is the property of Chicago Mercantile Excha and its licensors. All rights reserved. Dow Jones: The Dow Jones branded indices are proprietary to and are calculated, distributed and marketed by DJI Opco, a subsidiary of S&P Dow Jo LLC and have been licensed for use to S&P Opco, LLC and CNN. Standard & Poor's and S&P are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC and Dow Jones is a reg trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC. All content of the Dow Jones branded indices © S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC 2017 and/or its affiliates.

© 2017 Cable News Network. A Time Warner Company. All Rights Reserved. Terms under which this service is provided to you. Privacy Policy. AdChoices .