

**Exploring the effects of a warming ocean on mid-coast Maine lobstermen**  
**Meghan Gonzalez, Class of 2023**

even kissed the horizon. My Wednesdays  
this summer fell into this rhythm while working on *Family Condition*,  
Harbor. The state of Maine is unique for many reasons: it sees the first rays of sun in the US, its coastline  
is over thirty-five hundred miles, and has world-renowned lobsters. Part of the success of the lobster  
fishery is the management and conservation initiatives of the Department of Marine Resources. These  
regulations are in place to protect endangered species and stabilize lobster populations. Yet, the rise in sea  
temperature in the Gulf of Maine at record rates has altered lobster populations and migration patterns.  
This abrupt change may threaten the ecosystem that sustains the lobster industry.

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