Project objectives:

1. Repeat a comprehensive diver-based visual and suction sampling survey of lobster nurseries in Narragansett Bay and Rhode Island’s outer coast that had been conducted by the same method in 1990 during a time of historically high lobster abundance.

2. Deploy passive cobble-filled post-larval collectors at the same sites, thereby enabling side-by-side comparisons of the two methods.

3. Expand the survey using both methods to locations selected by the fishing industry. Undertake a hydrographic survey of mid-summer conditions at the surface and bottom within lobster nursery habitat.