To: ad hoc harbors committee

Re: out-hauls

Definition: An out-haul is two lines connected from a stationary pole on land above the high water mark to a frame floating in the water and anchored to the ocean floor. A boat is tied to one of the lines and, like a laundry line, can be pulled in from the frame or "moored" to the frame when the boat is not being used.

Problem: The lines are obstructive on the beach and unsightly when seaweed is hanging on the lines. The frame and boat are a hazard to navigation and they obstruct a small cove. The lines are not visible at night and constitute another hazard. The frames are sometimes partially submerged and nothing marks their location. They restrict swimming areas in small coves and unfairly restrict the use of a cove. It is especially difficult for people with dinghies to get to their moorings around the lines at low tide when the cove is taken up with their lines.

Request: As a Maine Tidewater guide, charter captain, life-long resident of Cape Elizabeth and owner of many boats and previous moorings, I would recommend the committee eliminate the use of out-hauls so more people can enjoy safe access to our beaches and water.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cc: Michael McGovern, Town Manager

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