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**WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL AND NATIONAL PARK TEAM UP
TO PRESENT *SOMETHING FISHY* SUMMER CAMP**

Campers Introduced to the Working Waterfront Past & Present

New Bedford, MA, September 2, 2008—During the week of August 4th, the Working Waterfront Festival and New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park presented *Something Fishy*, a one week pilot summer camp. Twelve kids in grades 4 and 5 participated in a week- long exploration of New Bedford's working waterfront from whaling days to the present. Campers were chosen by lottery as there were nearly 100 applications for the dozen spots. The camp was the first formal education program to take place in the National Park's newly-rehabilitated Corson Maritime Learning Center.

Educators Heather Ford, Ross Moran and Tove Bendiksen organized a boatload of activities including marine science, chantey singing, maritime crafts, visits with fishermen, dock walks and more. Special guests included chantey singer Viola Taylor, rigger Barbara Merry, shore captain Paul Lane from Fleet Fisheries and fisheries scientist Crista Bank from SMAST. Campers visited the Seaman's Bethel, Whaling Museum, Ocean Explorium, toured a scallop vessel and went on a Harbor Tour. By far, according to camp evaluations, the favorite activity was dissecting a squid! One parent said that although his daughter has participated in a lot of different summer programs, this was the one she couldn't stop talking about.

A number of organizations and individuals generously contributed their time, expertise and services to help support the camp activities. The Whaling Museum provided free admission to campers and a program on marine life taught by science educator Bob Rocha. The Ocean Explorium provided free admission and a program on water pollution. Warrior Fuels sponsored a Whaling City Expeditions Harbor Tour which capped off the week's activities. The City of New Bedford Department of Parks and Recreation provided free, daily breakfast and lunch for campers.

Given the level of interest from applicants and the enthusiastic response from campers and their families, the pilot program will surely grow with the hope of serving a larger crew of campers next summer.