

Shellfish Committee Minutes of the Meeting

DATE: July 20, 2011
TIME: 7:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
LOCATION: MEAD Building

Shellfish Committee Members present:

Stuart Rapp, Richard Haskell, Robert Lancaster, Gerard Ganey, Andre Sampou, Matt Ostrowski

General Public present:

Tom George, Norman White

NR Staff present:

Doug Kalweit, Tom Marcotti

Chairman's Report:

Stuart Rapp chaired the May 18th, 2011 meeting of the Shellfish Committee.

The Shellfish Committee adopted the minutes of the May 18, 2011 meeting of the Shellfish Committee.

The Shellfish Committee adopted the minutes of the June 15, 2011 meeting of the Shellfish Committee.

Natural Resources Report:

Tom Marcotti updated the Shellfish Committee on the progress of the Town's quahog propagation and enhancement projects. The Out-of-Town relays have been completed with a total of 3,600 bushels relayed to 5 relay areas in the Town of Barnstable. The Centerville River Contaminated Quahog Relay is completed with a total of 335 bushels relayed to the Bay Street Relay Area (DMF/SC:23.20).

Tom informed the committee of the ongoing oyster propagation projects in the Three Bays. Free planting of the 2010 class oysters will be relayed from the Marstons Mills River nursery site to depuration areas in West Bay. It is to be completed by August 31, 2011.

Natural Resources are currently growing 400,000 quahogs seed in the flupsies at the Prince Cove Marina under the efforts of Matt Loo.

During late June the Natural Resources staff deployed 500 shellfish bags of remote set oysters to the Scudder Lane nursery site in the Barnstable Harbor. The remote set oysters were provided by Barnstable County, the Southeast Massachusetts Aquaculture Center and the MA Division of Marine Fisheries and cultured by Aquaculture Research Corporation. NR is also culturing single oyster seed at the Scudder Lane and Marstons Mills River nursery sites.

The Shellfish Committee revisited the idea of propagating ~100,000 quahogs under 20 nets at the Scudder Lane Recreational Shellfishing area with the assistance of Barnstable Association for Recreational Shellfishing members and volunteers, ideally in April.

- **Shellfishing Area Status**

The shellfish areas listed below are scheduled to reopen during the Fall of 2011 pending approval by the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries:

Scudder Lane Recreational Shellfishing Area (DMF/CCB 31.20) is defined as: the waters, flats and all tributaries of Barnstable Harbor from the Beach House west of the Scudder Land landing, to the Barnstable Yacht Club pier, and extending to the Huckins Island tidal flat.

Bay Street Relay Area (DMF/SC23.20) is defined as: the waters, flats and tributaries of that portion of North Bay from the Town landing at Bay Street to the "No Shellfishing" sign/post at the tip of the salt marsh at 237 Seapuit Road and extending to the offshore "NR" sign buoys.

West Bay Oyster Relay Area in West Bay will be open for the recreational harvest of shellfish currently marked to the left of the West Bay Recreational Shellfishing area between the “No Shellfishing” sign/posts between the piers and extending to the offshore “NR” sign buoys.

Cotuit Bay Relay Area (DMF/SC 21.22) is defined as: the waters, flats and shoreline of that portion of Cotuit Bay between the “No Shellfishing” sign/posts located along the shoreline at 884 Main Street extending to the “NR” sign buoys located offshore.

Cordwood Lane Relay Area (Northern Portion) (DMF/SC 21.21) is defined as: the waters, flats and shoreline of that portion of Cotuit Bay located within the area defined by the “No Shellfishing” sign/post located on the shore at 721 Old Post Road to the NR “No Shellfishing” sign/buoy located offshore to the green navigational buoy at the southern end of the Cotuit Narrows to the “No Shellfishing” sign/post located on the shore at 797 Old Post Road.

MA Division of Marine Fisheries Shellfish Area Closures until the Fall of 2012:

Bluff Point Relay Area (DMF/SC 21.20) is defined as: the waters and shoreline of that portion of Cotuit Bay southwest of an imaginary line drawn from the end of the pier at 124 Bluff Point Drive to a “No Shellfishing” sign/post along the western shore of Cotuit Bay at 996 Main Street, Cotuit MA.

North Bay Relay Area (DMF/SC 23.22) is defined as: the waters, flats and shoreline of that portion of North Bay from the pier at 79 Sand Point Road to the pier at 86 Sand Point Road extending to the navigational channel at the northern entrance to Cotuit Bay and to the offshore sign/buoys in North Bay.

Outer Hyannis Harbor Relay Area (DMF/SC27.25) is defined as: the waters, flats and shoreline of that portion of Outer Hyannis Harbor from the “No Shellfishing” sign at the pier at 10 Hyannis Avenue to the “No Shellfishing” sign at the pier at 85 Ocean Avenue and 250 feet seaward from the signs.

Piers, Dredging, and Shellfish Habitat Issues

The Shellfish Committee reviewed the following pier application pending:

Applicant: Paul Roiff
Application: Proposed pier with construction of new pile supported with ramp and float, maintenance of existing path to water.
Location: Pinquickset Cove, 160 Peppercorn Lane, Cotuit, MA, 02635

New Business

- **Centerville River Bathometric Study**

The Shellfish Committee discussed the results of the Centerville Rive Bathometric Study which found no adverse impact on the quahog population since previous dredging projects in the Centerville River.

- **Shellfish Habitat Site Survey**

Tom presented the data collected from the 10 members of the “Natural Resources sub-committee to the year 2000 Pier Committee” which evaluated significant shellfish habitat along the shorelines of the Three Bays and designated shoreline of Barnstable Harbor. The Shellfish Committee decided to put the topic on the agenda of the next committee meeting for discussion to approve the final revised habitat map.

Shellfish Aquaculture License Renewal Application

The Shellfish Committee reviewed and discussed the shellfish aquaculture license renewal application of **David Ryan** and passed a motion recommending that his license be renewed by the Town Manager. David Ryan’s shellfish aquaculture site is located in Barnstable Harbor (Area 1; site ng026; 2.00 acres). A public hearing for the proposal renewal application was held on July 20, 2011 at 2:30 P.M. in the Selectman’s Conference Room, Town Hall Building, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA.

Other Business

Stuart Rapp discussed with the committee requesting State Representative Atsalis to introduce legislation prohibiting shellfishing at night. The Shellfish Committee decided to move forward with the request.

Tom George requested another recommendation from the committee to increase the number of commercial permits in town by 3. The Shellfish Committee did not approve a motion to increase the number of commercial permits. Stuart Rapp also read a correspondence by Christopher DiPilato (added below) related to the issue directing that the letter be entered into the minutes of the July 2011 meeting of the Shellfish Committee:

Debbie,

If you could forward this email to the appropriate person on the Shellfishing Committee it would be greatly appreciated.

In the meeting that took place on June 15, 2011, the topic of increased commercial fishing licenses took place. I have a couple of questions and comments.

1. There was a vote to increase the number of commercial fishing permits to 60, which was voted down, has this completely ended the discussion on increasing the permits or is more work being done on this for the next meeting?

2. I think if permits are increased it should not just go off the lottery list this year, that something more fair should be done especially, for people like myself who have been on this list for 4 years and have pursued multiple avenues in attempting to obtain a permit.

Regards,

*Christopher, J. DiPilato
508-361-9007*