

Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council
SHELLFISH ADVISORY PANEL
Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 4:30PM
URI Bay Campus, Coastal Institute Building, Hazard Room
218 S Ferry Road, Narragansett, RI

MEETING MINUTES

RIMFC members present: J. Grant (SAP Chair)

DEM DFW: C. McManus; W. Helt; J. Livermore;

DEM OWR: K. Rodrigue;

CRMC: D. Beutel;

SAP members present: K. Eagan; G. Schey; M. McGivney; D. Ghigliotty; R. Tellier. R. Pastore

Public: S. Schumann;

Applicants: S. Yankocy; D. & E. Lovesky; K. Hess; P. Sebring

1. CRMC Aquaculture Applications

- a) CRMC Aquaculture Lease Application: CRMC File # 2016-07-061, Gardner, Winnapaug Pond

D. Beutel provided a brief overview of the proposal and comments from other agencies, while also answering questions from the SAP and audience. **A motion was made by M. McGivney to recommend no objection to the application; 2nd by G. Schey. The motion passed 6 – 0.**

- b) CRMC Aquaculture Lease Application: CRMC File # 2016-08-092, Papa, Ninigret Pond

D. Beutel provided a brief overview of the proposal and comments from other agencies, while also answering questions from the SAP and audience. **A motion was made by D. Pastore to recommend no objection to the application; 2nd by D. Ghigliotty. The motion passed 6 – 0.**

- c) CRMC Aquaculture Lease Application: 2016-09-080, Brown/Sebring, Bristol

D. Beutel provided a brief overview of the proposal and comments from other agencies, while also answering questions from the SAP and audience. **A motion was made by M. McGivney to recommend no objection to the application; 2nd by K. Egan. The motion passed 5 – 1.**

- d) CRMC Aquaculture Lease Application: CRMC File # 2016-09-104, Hess, Hog Island

D. Beutel provided a brief overview of the proposal and comments from other agencies, while also answering questions from the SAP and audience. **A motion was made by K. Egan to recommend no objection to the application; 2nd by D. Pastore. The motion passed 5 – 1.**

- e) CRMC Aquaculture Lease Application: CRMC File # 2016-10-036, Lovesky et al., Quonochontaug Pond

D. Beutel provided a brief overview of the proposal and comments from other agencies, while also answering questions from the SAP and audience. **A motion was made by M. McGiveney to recommend no objection to the application; 2nd by D. Pastore. The motion passed 5 – 0 (K. Egan abstained).**

- f) CRMC Aquaculture Lease Application: CRMC File # 2016-10-057, Yankocy, Pt. Judith Pond

D. Beutel provided a brief overview of the proposal and comments from other agencies, while also answering questions from the SAP and audience. **A motion was made by M. McGiveney to recommend no objection to the application; 2nd by G. Schey. The motion passed 6 – 0.**

2. Harmful Algae Bloom Summary and Discussion on Prospective Tagging Area Changes

C. McManus provided an overview of the monitoring DEM conducted regarding the fall 2016 harmful algal bloom (HAB) in Rhode Island waters. Monitoring logistics, sample types collected, phytoplankton biology, and ecosystem concerns were reviewed.

Discussion was then held on whether reorganizing certain tagging areas would allow for greater flexibility regarding response times for shellfish closures and openings. Topics discussed specifically were: diving 4A and 3W into north-south components, and either merging the 5B portion by Third Beach with 5C or designate it as a new area. ***No final decisions were made on restructuring tagging areas.*** Formal proposals will be made at a later date.

3. Future Harvester Education Training Requirement

C. McManus spoke about the harvester education course that will be federally required by all harvesters to take for 2018 license renewals. Completion will not impact license renewal for the 2017 harvest year. This conversation was to inform industry members early on about this regulation change. More information on how to complete the training will be provided to harvesters when the course becomes available.

Prepared by: C. McManus