



Oliver Stedman Government Center  
4808 Tower Hill Road; Suite 116  
Wakefield, RI 02879  
401-783-3370

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

File Number: 2014-04-106

Date: May 2, 2014

This office has under consideration the application of:

Benjamin & Diane Franford  
70 Kelseytown Road  
Killingworth, CT 06419

for a State of Rhode Island Assent to construct and maintain: a 1.55 acre oyster aquaculture farm west of Jonathan Island in Point Judith Pond using three methods: bottom plant; cages; and rack and bag.

Project Location:	1 Jonathan Island
City/Town:	Narragansett
Plat/Lot:	N/A
Waterway:	Point Judith Pond

Plans of the proposed work may be seen at the CRMC office in Wakefield.

In accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act (Chapter 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws) you may request a hearing on this matter.

You are advised that if you have good reason to enter protests against the proposed work it is your privilege to do so. It is expected that objectors will review the application and plans thoroughly, visit site of proposed work if necessary, to familiarize themselves with the conditions and cite what law or laws, if any, would in their opinion be violated by the work proposed.

If you desire to protest, you must attend the scheduled hearing and give sworn testimony. A notice of the time and place of such hearing will be furnished you as soon as possible after receipt of your request for hearing. If you desire to request a hearing, to receive consideration, it should be in writing (**with your correct mailing address, e-mail address and valid contact number**) and be received at this office on or before June 2, 2014.

## Benjamin Franford

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**From:** Benjamin Franford  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2014 9:47 AM  
**To:** Benjamin Franford  
**Subject:** Final lease application 4/25/2014

This is a proposal to the state of Rhode Island to request an aquaculture lease for the cultivation of the American Oyster *Crassostrea virginica*.

1-The principal persons ,owners and partners ,responsible for this aquaculture operation will be:

Benjamin Franford CDT  
Diane Franford RN  
70 Kelseytown Rd  
Killingworth,Ct06419  
860-663-3839-land  
203-988-4187-cell

2- CRMC will assign the number.

3-DEM Aquaculture License number is to be procured.

4-Type of facility will be a commercial oyster aquaculture lease. The methodology will consist of cages ,rack&bag and bottom planting.

5-The location of the facility will be in the town of Narragansett in the water body of Point Judith Pond.

-Lat/long coordinates of the facility are :

North West Corner =Lat:41\*24'10.45 "N  
Lon:71\*30'9.64 "W

West Middle Marker=Lat:41\*24'8.22"N  
Lon:71\*30'10.72"W

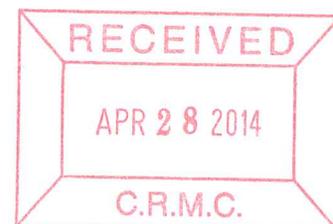
South West Corner=Lat:41\*24'5.34"N  
Lon:71\*30'11.24"W

South East Corner=Lat:41\*24'5.64"N  
Lon:71\*30'10.23"W

East Middle Marker=Lat:41\*24'7.82"N  
Lon:71\*30'8.18"W

North East Corner=Lat:41\*24'9.64"N  
Lon=71\*30'8.87"W

-Total acres are 1.55



6-The species of shellfish to be grown at the facility will be the Eastern Oyster or American Oyster *Crassostrea virginica* . We intend to follow the biosecurity board seed protocols.

7-Description of types of structures, gear and methods to be used at the facility will be :

1) Cages=bottom stackable trays :4ftx4ft x4"H/with 650 oysters in each tray/ In a trawl of 10 /4 cages high.

Total height of each cage assembly will be 20" H,4 feet below surface at mean low tide.

Total number of trawls will be 5/totaling 130,000 oysters.

Each trawl will have a 6' buoy marking each end and the middle/3 in total /totaling 15 buoys for all trawls.

2) rack and bag =will consist of 5 plastic cages strapped to metal rack /dimensions will be approximately 36"x24"x2" strapped to metal rack submerged 2 ft below mean low tide.

3) bottom planting=the rest will consist of bottom planting along the remaining portion of lease.

Please refer to sketch/site plan that details a cross section of structures as they appear in the water column ,including proximity to surface and bottom are included ,with detailed maps of their locations.

8) Type of Buoy markers will be at the recommendation of the CRMC and town.

9) DEM Shellfish harvesting classification site is growing area #10.

10) In keeping with the practices and procedures used during the growth, harvest, storage, transportation and sale of cultured species :

We will follow the state mandated Vibrio protocol to eliminate risk of contamination in compliance with the ISSC ordinance.

To promote sustainability we must maintain or increase crop production while minimizing impact on the environment.

Our site selection is an approved shell fishing site with ease of access from our privately owned island and boat.

Activity during the initiation of site prep, growing process and harvest which may include transport of materials to and from site will be via foot from shore and boat.

By carefully distributing our cages and racks with adequate spacing we will keep the corridors open for natural habitat.

Our footprint allows for efficient operation with minimal disturbance to non-farm species.

Our gear will be maintained on a regular basis so as not to impede normal navigation.

Through routine examination of our equipment to keep clear from bio fouling and manipulation of sediment during growth we will enhance production.

Regular monitoring of site equipment and product will allow for repair and replacement as necessary.

We will monitor on a routine basis for predators and remove immediately.

By surveying the site during winter months for changes in condition we can repair and maintain as indicated.

We will maintain adequate water movement by management of bio fouling.

Sale of our animals are intended to be local and have not been established yet.

11) We will obtain seed from the local grower which have been produced by a commercial hatchery that is certified by the division of Marine Fisheries.

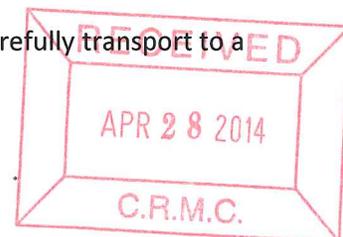
We will abide by the requirements of the CRMC,NMFS,DEM,DOH and the state of Rhode Island for record keeping and reports as indicated.

Be knowledgeable of prevalent shellfish disease ,the symptoms and seasonal cycles by keeping up to date on current shellfish disease management.

Early detection and regular monitoring of the condition and appearance of our crop is necessary in order to monitor for mortality and disease.

If detected we will remove diseased shellfish to a leak proof container as soon as possible and carefully transport to a diagnostic facility as recommended by the local specialist.

12) N/A



13) Our procedures for Maintaining records will be as follows:

We will use waterproof paper on or near the water to keep data.

A detailed description of demarcation methods and record keeping practices used at the lease site to ensure that animals have been cultured at least twelve (12) months in approved waters, prior to sale will be as follows:

All seed batches will be well tagged sequentially JI 1, JI 2, JI 3 and so on to accurately maintain separately. Each tag will identify the date, source, average size, and amount of seed. Each bag, cage and trawl will be clearly marked and segregated in the lease site. All seed will be maintained and tracked through its transition from cages to rack and bag to planting. This process will take at least one (1) year from the receipt of the original seed and during the final planting the tracking data will be set up in an organized gridded fashion in order to maintain precise records.

It is our intention to work synergistically with Mother Nature by promoting maximum water flow and maximum food resulting in maximum growth.

1. *Demonstrate the need for the proposed activity or alteration;*

We are applying for a Category B assent as a startup business for an oyster farm off of Jonathan Island owned by us privately.

2. *Demonstrate that all applicable local zoning ordinances, building codes, flood hazard standards, and all safety codes, and environmental requirements have or will be met; local approvals are required for activities as specifically prescribed for nontidal portions of project in Sections 300.2, 300.3, 300.6, 300.8, 300.9, 300.11, 300.13, 300.15 and 300.17; for projects on state land, the state building official, for the purposes of section, is the building official;*

There are no local ordinances that pertain to our submerge gear.

3. *Describe the boundaries of the coastal waters and land area that are anticipated to be affected;*

There are no boundaries of coastal waters and land areas that are anticipated to be affected.

4. *Demonstrate that the alteration or activity will not result in significant impacts on erosion and/or deposition process along the shore and in tidal waters;*

Aquaculture is not known to directly impact erosion or deposition.

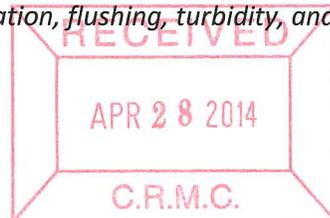
5. *Demonstrate that the alteration or activity will not result in significant impacts on the abundance and diversity of plant and animal life;*

Cage aquaculture is known to increase species diversity.

6. *Demonstrate that the alteration will not unreasonably interfere with, impair, or significantly impact existing public access to, or use of, tidal waters and/or the shore;*

There is no public access to impair off our site.

7. *Demonstrate that the alteration will not result in significant impacts to water circulation, flushing, turbidity, and sedimentation;*



Turbidity will increase while scrubbing oysters but sediment will be minor.

8. *Demonstrate that there will be no significant deterioration in quality of waters in the immediate vicinity as defined by DEM;*

Shellfish aquaculture is known to improve water conditions.

9. *Demonstrate that the alteration or activity will not result in significant impacts to areas of historic and archaeological significance;*

To the best of our knowledge there is no archeological or historical significance to our proposed site.

10. *Demonstrate that the alteration or activity will not result in significant conflicts with water-dependent uses and activities such as recreational boating, fishing, swimming, navigation, and commerce, and;*

In the shallow waters swimming is discouraged due to submerged hazards related to aquaculture ,however kayaking and canoeing would not present a problem.

11. *Demonstrate that measures have been taken to minimize any adverse scenic impact;*

There will be no scenic impact as it is submerged, we will have approximately 4- 6 buoys as corner markers and 3 buoys by trawl line for 10 cages.

Regards,

Benjamin Franford, CDT



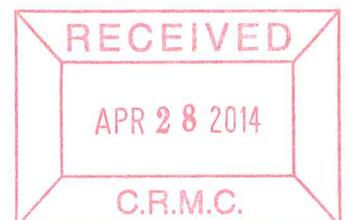
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4/24/2014



marks

Square Ft: 69,470  
Acreage: 1.55 Acres

Lat: 41°24'10.45"N  
Lon: 71°30'9.64"W  
northwest corner marker

Lat: 41°24'8.22"N  
Lon: 71°30'10.72"W  
west middle marker

northeast corner marker  
Lat: 41°24'9.64"N  
Lon: 71°30'8.87"W

east middle marker  
Lat: 41°24'7.82"N  
Lon: 71°30'8.18"W

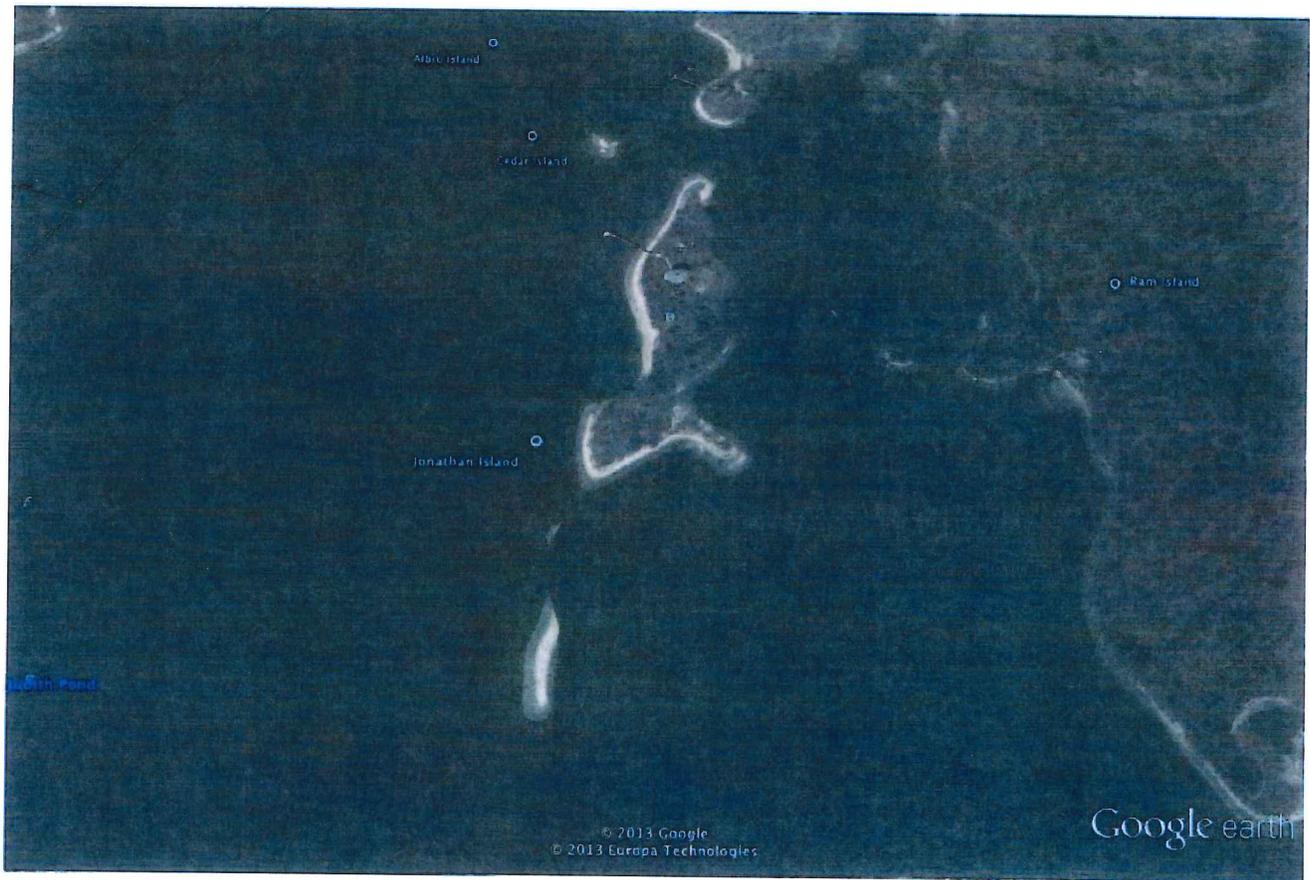
Lat: 41°24'5.34"N  
Lon: 71°30'11.24"W  
southwest corner marker

Lat: 41°24'5.64"N  
Lon: 71°30'10.23"W  
southeast corner marker

Jonathan Island, Narragansett, RI 02882, USA

Jonathan Island

APR 28 2014  
C.R.M.C.



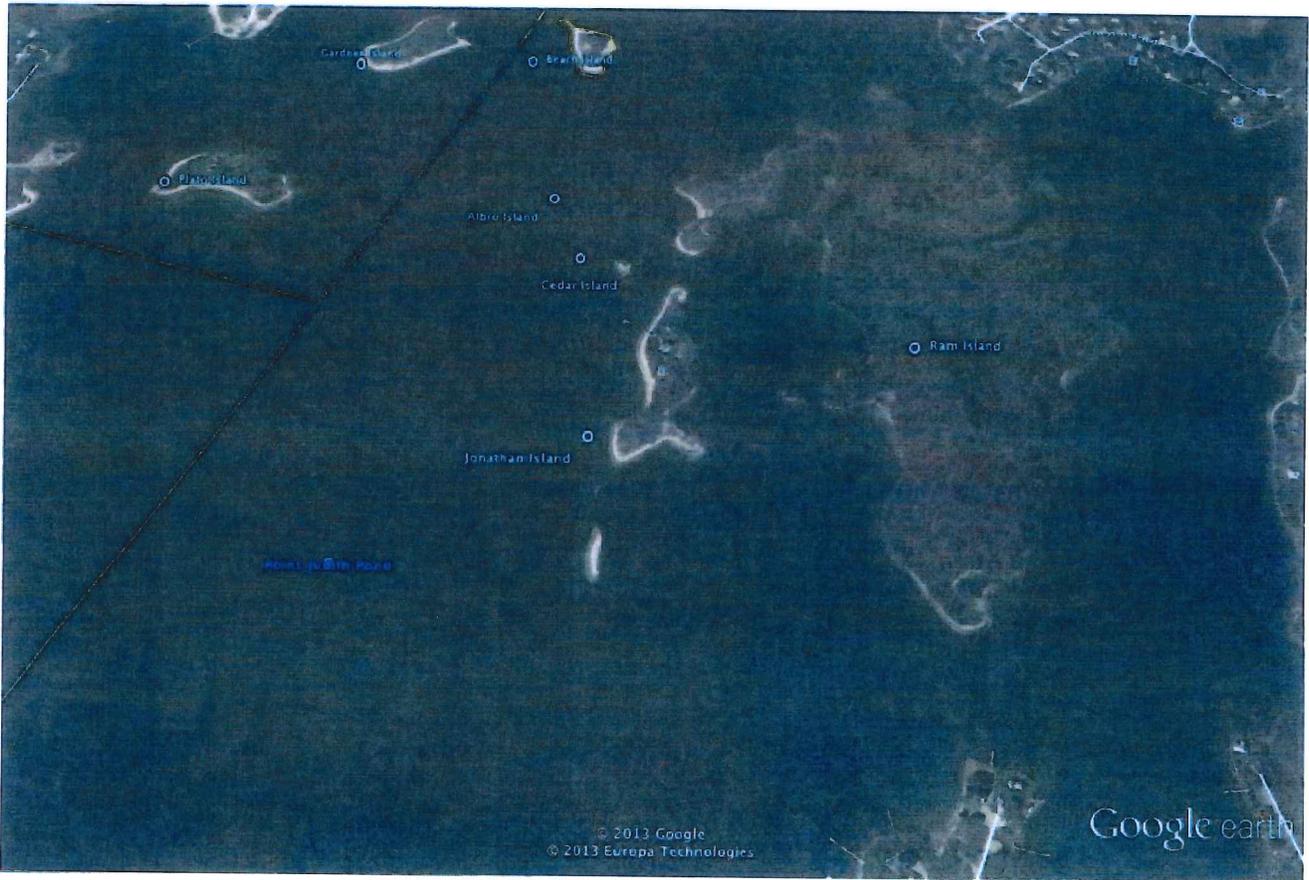
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feet 1000  
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C.R.M.C.



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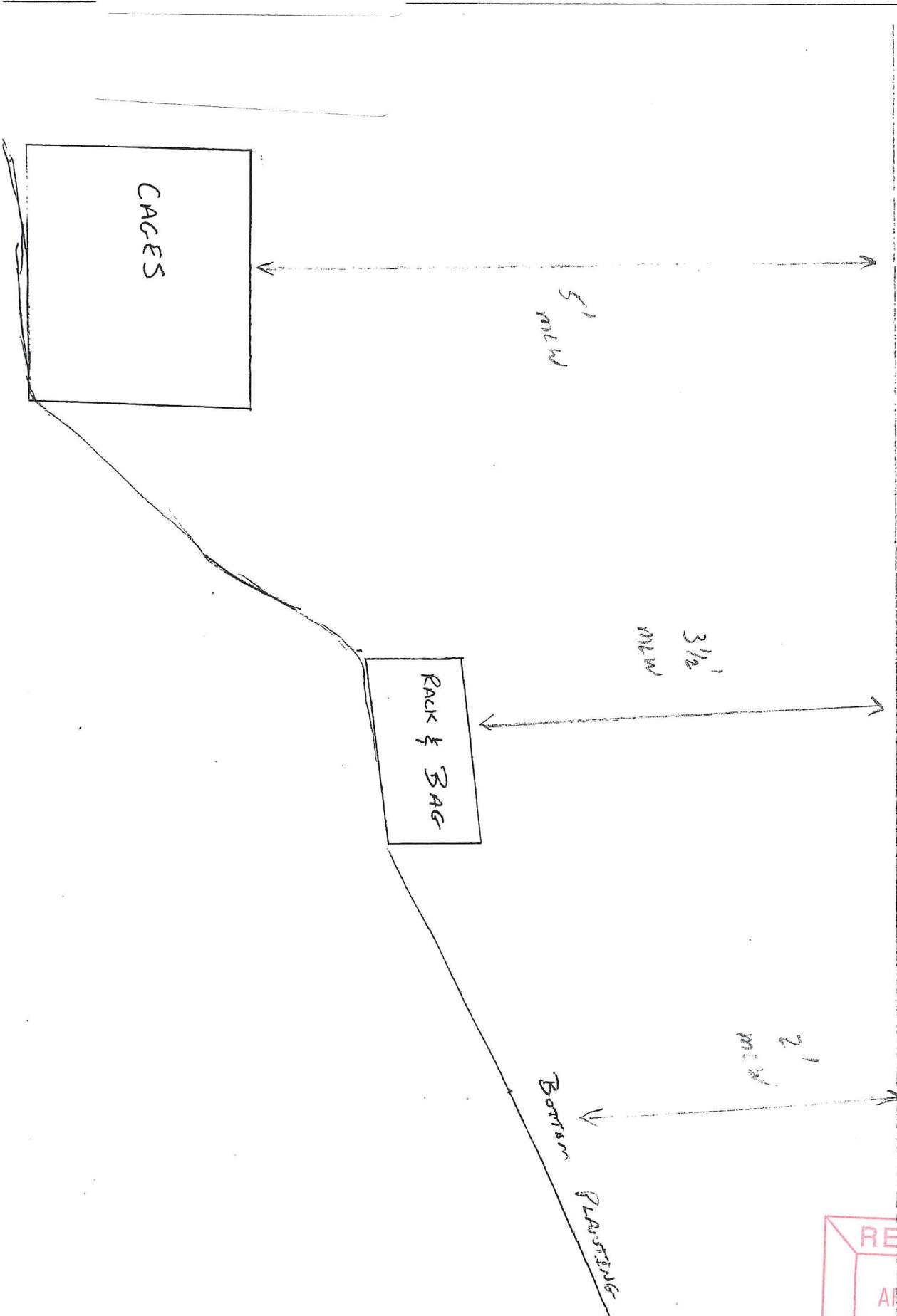


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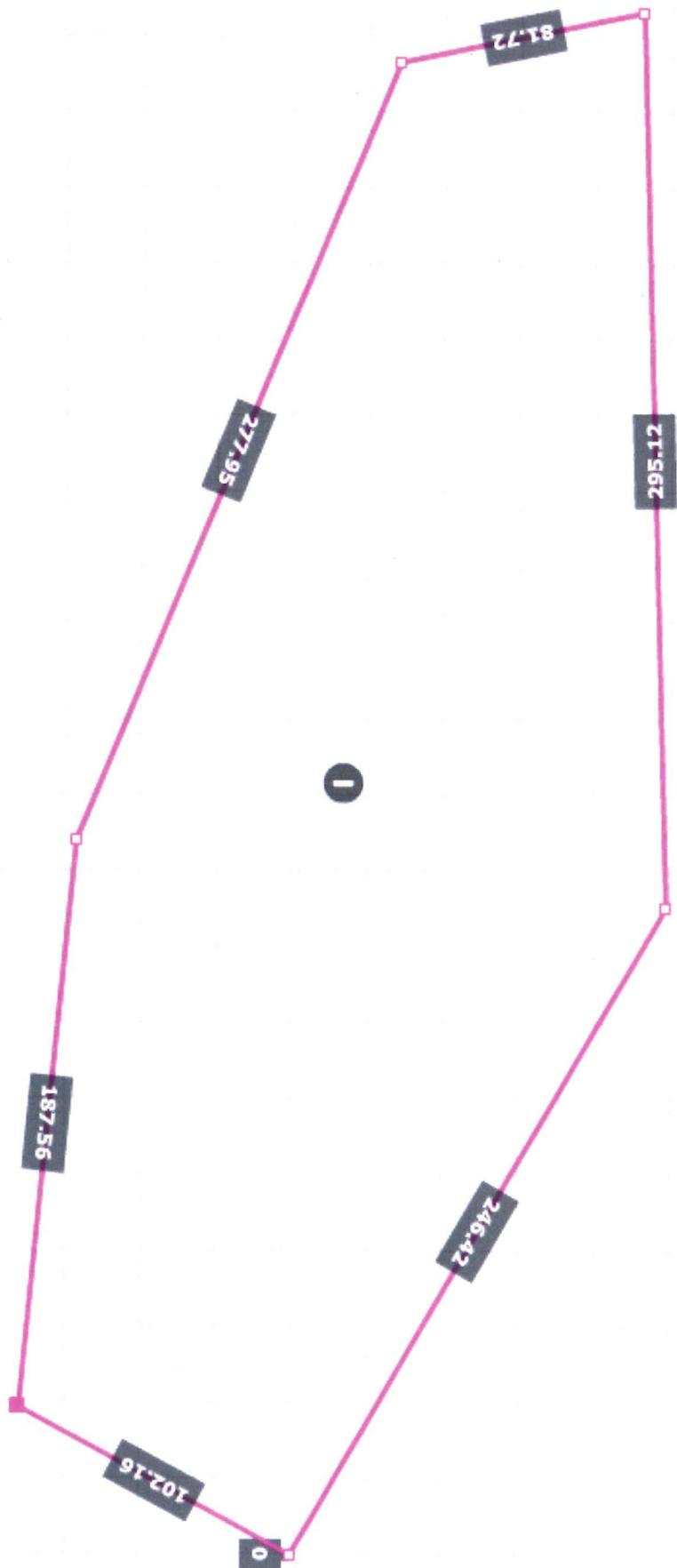
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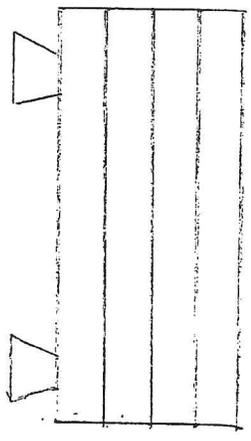
1" = 1'



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3 1/4"

QUAD CAGES

2 1/4"

$$\frac{1}{4}'' = 4''$$

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APR 28 2014  
C.R.M.C.