PUBLIC NOTICE

File Number: 2011-01-014 (modification) Date: February 19, 2015

This office has under consideration the application of:

Salt Water Farms, LLC
165 Tidal Drive
North Kingstown, RI 02852

for a modification to State of Rhode Island Assent to: add Eastern oysters Crassostrea virginica to the species that may be grown at their blue mussel farm in RI Sound. The method proposed is using suspended cages. Please see attachments.

| Project Location: | Rhode Island Sound |
| City/Town:        | Newport            |
| Waterway:         | Rhode Island Sound |

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 March 20, 2015.
A2011-01-014 Assent Modification Request

February 11, 2015

We are requesting an assent modification to add the eastern oyster Crassostrea virginica as a candidate species to be farmed at our lease site. This will allow us to farm an alternative crop as we develop management strategies to deal with elder duck predation of our primary crop, blue mussels.

We planted a long line of seed mussels at the site in early October 2014. The mussels were doing quite well as observed during maintenance visits to the site at the end of October and November. We returned to the site on December 31, 2014 and the entire crop had been consumed by elder ducks. We remain committed to growing mussels and plan to pursue a management strategy that works around the seasonal migration patterns of the eiders. Given the annual cycle of mussel seed settlement and grow out it will take two years to test this strategy. In the interim we are hoping to grow oysters at the site to generate some cash flow and to keep morale up.

The oyster farming operation will mirror our present operation in Narragansett Bay. Oyster trays stacked six high and secured by bridals will form a “set” that will be secured every five feet down the long lines (see attachment). Seed oysters, from approved hatcheries, will be planted in the spring of the year and tended over the course of their grow-out to market size. Our existing farm vessels and crew will maintain the farm.

The mooring system and long lines that are presently installed will be used to suspend the oyster gear twenty feet below the surface of the water at the farm site (see diagram). The gear will be washed and the oysters tumbled on a monthly basis during the growing season.
2/6/15
Dimensions:
48" Tall
18" Wide
18" Deep