

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road, Wakefield, RI 02879

PUBLIC NOTICE

File Number: 2011-11-097 Date: December 20, 2011

This office has under consideration the application of:

Town of New Shoreham
Att: Nancy Dodge
New Shoreham Town Hall
Block Island, RI 02807

for a State of Rhode Island Assent to construct and maintain: an aquaculture lease to provide an area for permitted aquaculturists to keep shellfish in open water during the annual seasonal closure of the inner ponds of Great Salt Pond. Please see the attached documents.

Project Location:	Great Salt Pond
City/Town:	New Shoreham
Waterway:	Cormorant Cove

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 January 20, 2012.

CRMC Mailing List for Town of New Shoreham
CRMC File Number 2011-11-097

Town of New Shoreham
Att: Nancy Dodge
New Shoreham Town Hall
Block Island, RI 02807

Aquaculture mailing list

General List, Town of New Shoreham

CRMC (2011-11-097)
O. S. Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

Aquaculture Site Description and Proposed Use:

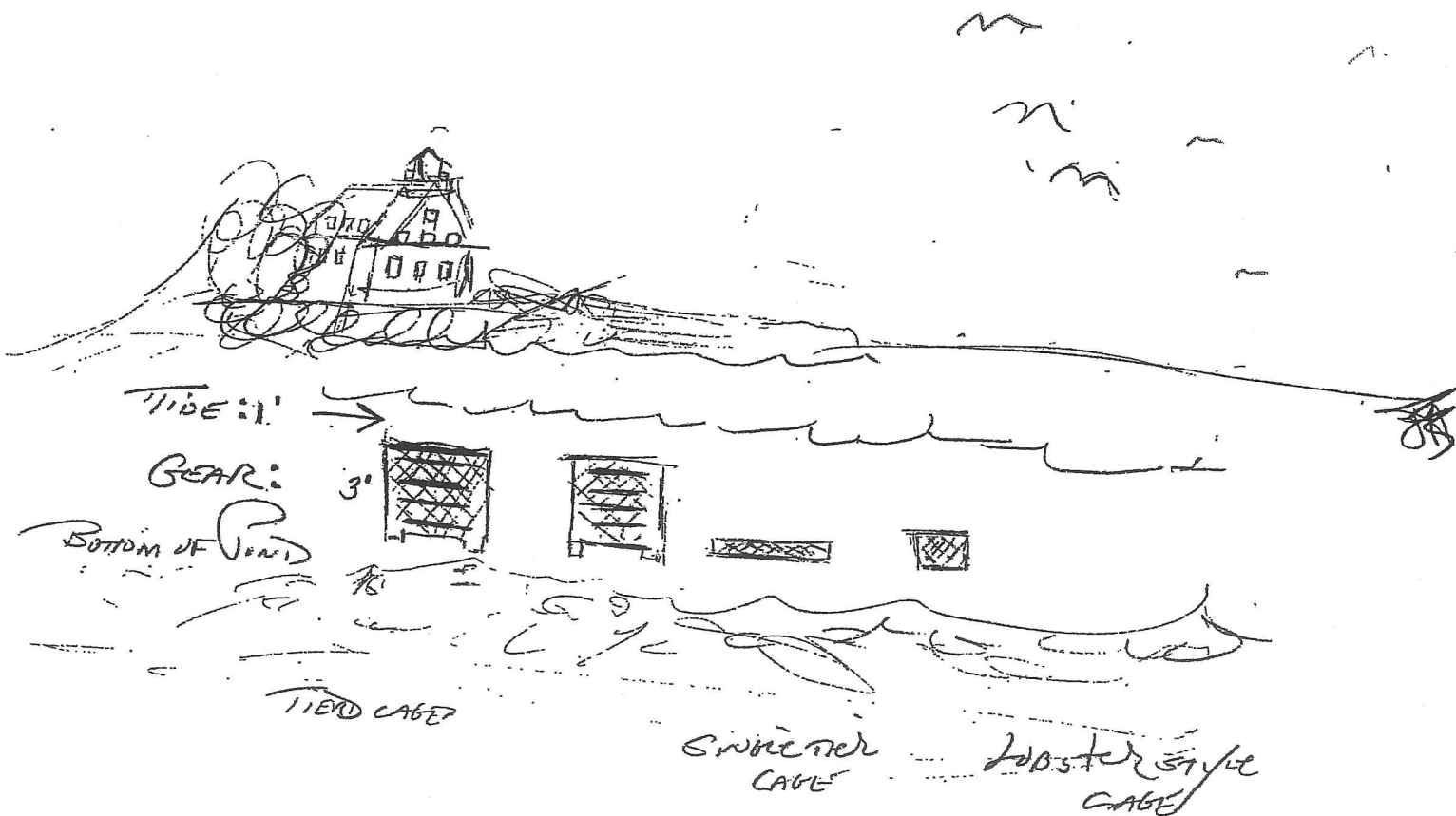
The Town of New Shoreham proposed lease site is located in Great Salt Pond, New Harbor, Block Island (Plat 20 Lot 20). It is away from recreational shellfishing areas, difficult to access by land, and has very little use by public boaters. The cove is in an area that is open for shellfishing year round. It is adjacent to an emergency mooring field but the official Town mooring field is 400 yards further into Great Salt Pond. The area is a total of 3 acres, which we have divided into ¼ acre sites. This is additionally defined in the Town of New Shoreham's Harbor Management Plan as Shellfish Management Area #1. The area has low traffic, is marked by private aids to navigation limiting the speed to 5 MPD, and has a buried water line that feeds the adjacent Coast Guard House. While the potential for vandalism always exists, the area is in clear view of Harbor Department vessels and the RI State Police who live in the Coast Guard House during the summer months. This area has consistently good water quality and meets all State and Federal standards to be open to shellfish harvesting on a year-round basis. Currently, during the summer months, our aquaculture lease holders are not able to remove product from their sites as they are located in an area that is conditionally closed during the peak season. The creation of this new area would allow all current lease holders to move their product from their lease sites before the seasonal closure and utilize the Town site during those months their beds are closed, therefore providing any economic benefit to all parties. The Shellfish Commission met with the aquaculture farmers and discussed the application and the guidelines listed below, at a public meeting held at the Town Hall on Block Island September 29, 2011. The Town of New Shoreham Shellfish Commission has created the following guidelines for the use of this area:

- 1) Current CRMC/DEM permitted shellfish farmers in good standing may be permitted to utilize a ¼ acre summer storage site on the Town Storage Area, which will be assigned by the Town of New Shoreham Harbormaster. The Harbormaster or his designated assistant will confirm all corner markers for each permitted site.
- 2) Storage permits will be issued on an annual basis at the February meeting of the Town of New Shoreham Shellfish Commission. Applications for an annual permit to use the Town storage area must be received by the Shellfish by February 1st of that year.
- 3) The Town accepts no liability for any product or gear, which may be damaged or lost by the Permit Holder.
- 4) It is required that each individual piece of equipment be clearly and indelibly tagged with the name and phone number of the Permit Holder so that any equipment found outside their assigned storage location can be easily identified.
- 5) All storage is required to be below water only. Floating equipment of any kind is **prohibited**.
- 6) The Harbormaster or his designated assistant must be notified by the Permit Holder (via phone or radio) at least 24 hours prior to any product being moved to or from the Town Storage Area.
- 7) The use of the Town Storage Area is exclusively for product that will be for re-sale. It is not to be used for stock involved in restoration activities.
- 8) The Town Storage Area will be opened on May, 5 days prior to the seasonal/conditional closure of aquaculture growing sites, and closed on October, 5 days following re-opening of those sites. Failure by the permit holder to remove all equipment and stock by the October Town Storage Area date will result in the loss of the privilege to utilize the Town Storage Area. All clean up costs incurred by the Town will be the responsibility of the Permit Holder.

Gear Description and Marketing:

Several types of gear are anticipated for use within the Town area. Submerged containers for shellfish, including ADPI mesh bags (approximately 40" x 20" x 4" and 3' x 3' x 6" plastic or plastic coated wire cages. (Please refer to photographs following which show from left to right 3 different style cages and 1 mesh bag which would be utilized within the cages.) These containers will be placed either in single layers or multiple tiers in larger containers of similar materials. All containers will be submerged and placed directly on the bottom or on top of wracks off of the bottom. Gear will remain submerged at all times except when work is being conducted on the site, when there is a need to control fouling on the containers, or in the case of *extreme* low tides. Each individual lease holders' site will be identified at each corner with a standard 11" pot bouy showing Name and Town of New Shoreham permit number to be assigned by the Harbormaster. The Town of New Shoreham's site will be marked at all corners with CRMC and our assigned file number.

Aquaculture lease holders utilizing the Town site will be required to possess oysters no smaller than 2" within their area. It is anticipated that each lease holder will market their product on the mainland as well as local restaurants, farmers market and farm stands. The Town further anticipates that each lease holder engaging in such resale will have all necessary permits as legally required by law in order to market their product.



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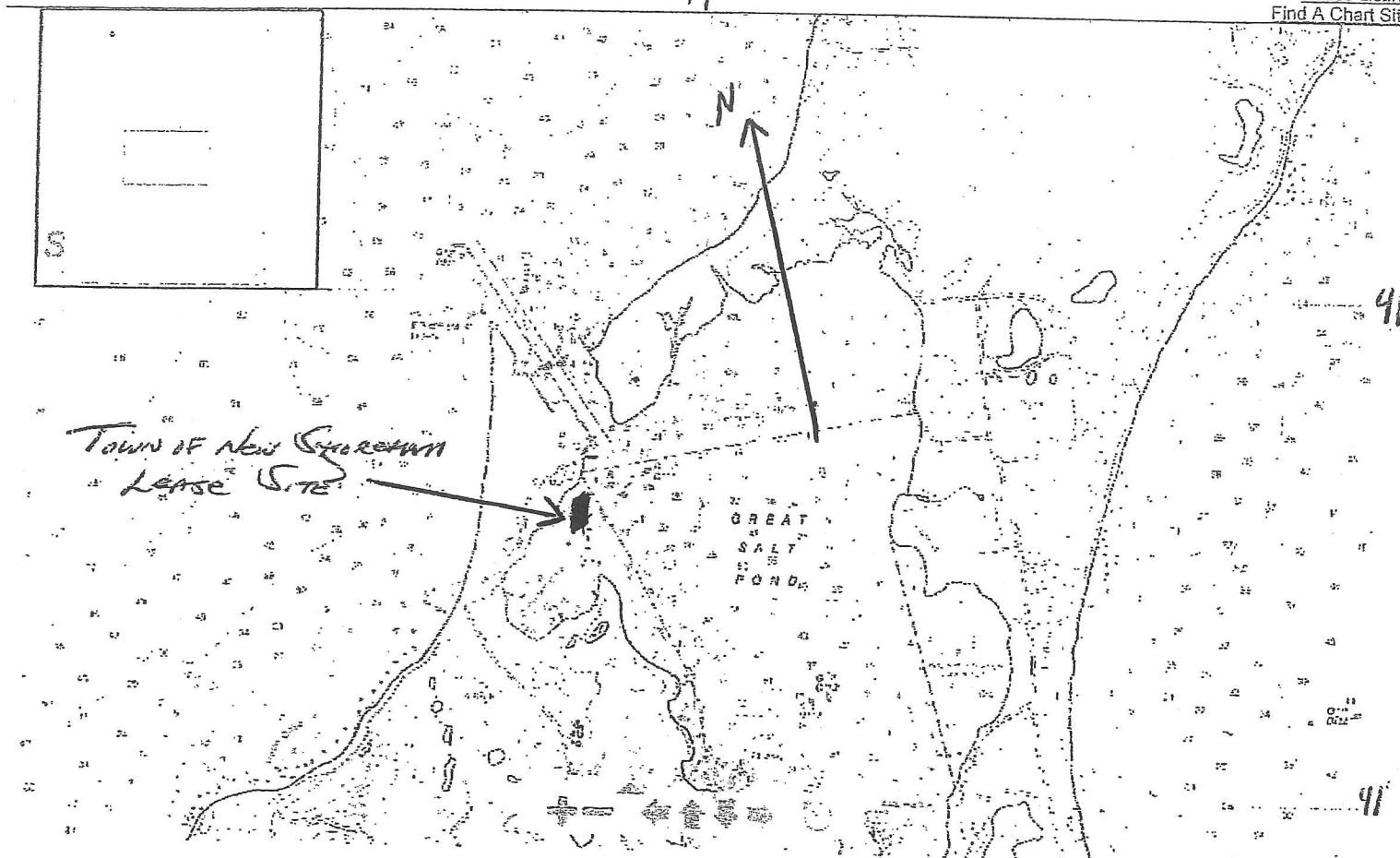
Edition: 16

Edition Date: March 2011

Clear Dates: NM - 4/9/2011

LNM - 3/29/2011

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Notice Listing
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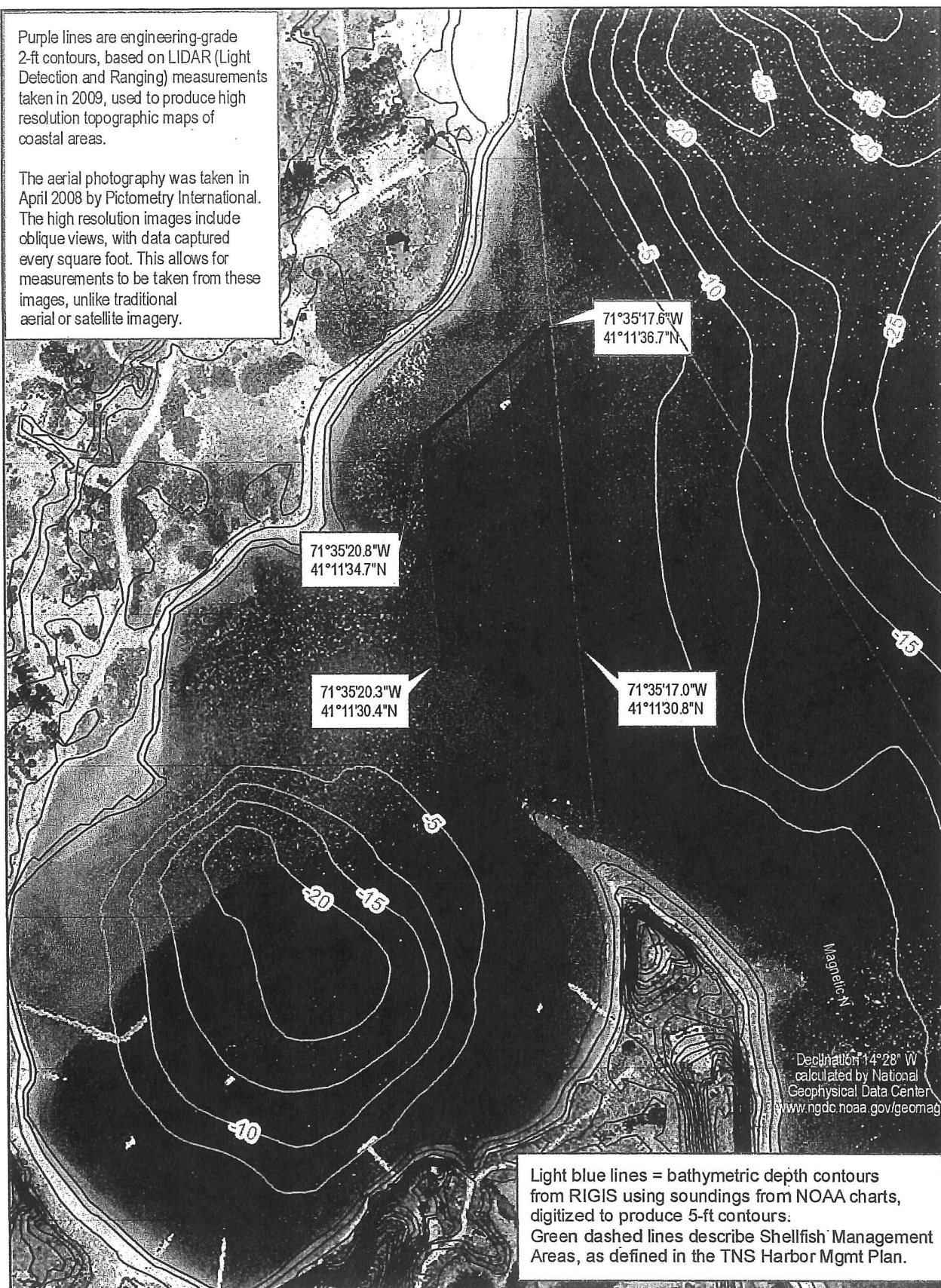
NOTE: Use the official, full scale NOAA nautical chart for real navigation whenever possible. These are available from authorized NOAA nautical chart sales agents. Screen captures of the on-line viewable charts available here do NOT fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 46 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

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Purple lines are engineering-grade 2-ft contours, based on LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) measurements taken in 2009, used to produce high resolution topographic maps of coastal areas.

The aerial photography was taken in April 2008 by Pictometry International. The high resolution images include oblique views, with data captured every square foot. This allows for measurements to be taken from these images, unlike traditional aerial or satellite imagery.



0 250 500 Feet
Map Scale 1:3,000 1" = 250'

Town of New Shoreham Aquaculture Site

Block Island GIS, mkr, 4/12/2011

Section 300.1

Category B Requirements; Response

- 1) The Town is providing this area for aquaculture lease holders to have a place to store their product for resale during the period of time that their leased sites are conditionally closed.
- 2) N/A
- 3) See application for details
- 4) There will be no effect or erosion or deposition.
- 5) Bottom storage will enhance and positively affect the the diversity of plant and animal life in the area.
- 6) Existing public access and boating will not be diminished.
- 7) This area has high circulation that will not be affected by this use
- 8) Aquaculture has been shown to improve water quality
- 9) This is not an area of historic or archaeological significance
- 10) All current activities will still occur
- 11) Marking will blend into existing marking and have no adverse scenic impact