

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: 2011-12-027 Date: December 30, 2011

This office has under consideration the application of:

Adam Silkes
65 Pierce Road
North Kingstown, RI 02852

for a State of Rhode Island Assent to construct and maintain: a commercial viability mussel longline. This application is for step two of the commercial viability aquaculture process. There has been a permitted mussel longline at this location since April 2011.

Project Location:	West Passage
City/Town:	North Kingstown
Waterway:	Narragansett Bay (Rome Point)

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 31, 2012.

OPERATIONAL PLAN:

The Purpose of this experimental mussel lease application is to determine three key components; (1) Will there be conflicts with commercial fishermen already utilizing the proposed site? (2) What, and how intense are the marine fouling organisms in the proposed site? (3) How will the product grow on the proposed gear in the intended site. Upon answering these three key questions, we will be able to determine whether or not to pursue a full commercial lease and turn the experiment into a potential business.

The experimental site will fill the maximum limitation of 1000 square feet of space set by CRMC. The Length of the site will be 500 feet long with a width of 2 feet. The gear is basic. There will be a 300 foot long mainline made of 1" rope. Fifteen feet long mussel socks will be hanging off of this mainline at intervals of 10 feet (30 total socks). The line will suspend in the water column using floats as buoyancy (note: the number of floats will have to be determined through this experiment). Also, to keep the mainline submerged at the correct depth as well as minimize movement from tidal flow and wave action; intermediate weights will hang from the mainline and rest on the bottom.

The intermediate weights consist of a five gallon bucket filled with cement. A ½" rope will tie into the mainline at to-be determined intervals (We will start with one intermediate weight every 50 feet; six total weights).

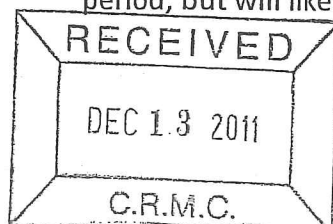
Both ends of the mainline will be connected to individual moorings. The moorings are 550 pound recycled train wheels commonly used to moor boats. Essentially they act as a typical mushroom anchor. There will be ¾" chain shackled to the mooring at one end and connected to 1" rope at the other. This rope then ties in to the mainline where the mussel ropes hang. Exact dimensions will have to be determined upon setting the gear

The mainline will be marked at the surface by three floats; one float at either end as well as one in the middle. As well, there will be Hi-flyers at the North and South end of the line to mark it. The rest of the gear will be submerged 20 feet below the surface.

A lobster style boat will be used to set the gear and tend the mainline during the experiment. The gear can be brought to the surface with a grappling hook and the hydraulics on board the boat. When the work is completed the gear will sink back down to its original location 20 feet below the surface.

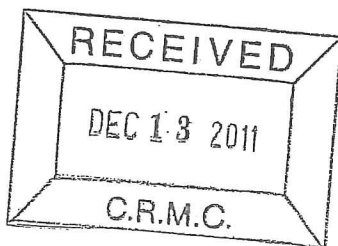
Mussel seed for the line will be harvested from Salt Water Farms in Narragansett Bay (a pre-existing oyster farm that has an abundant annual set of mussels on the oyster gear). It will be put into cotton bisected mesh socks commonly used throughout Atlantic Canada, which will then be transferred to the experimental site and attached to the line. The mussel seed socks will be planted in the fall of 2010 and monitored throughout the experimental period for product growth as well as fouling growth.

Maintenance on the line will have to be determined throughout the 18 month experimental period, but will likely consist of adding/removing floatation and intermediate weights to



achieve and maintain correct dimensions of mainline. As well as cleaning marine fouling organisms from lines and floats for the same purpose.

When/If the mussels grow from seed to a marketable product, the 30 socks will be cut from the mainline and brought on board the lobster boat. The mussels will be stripped from the socks and sold to American Mussel Harvesters.



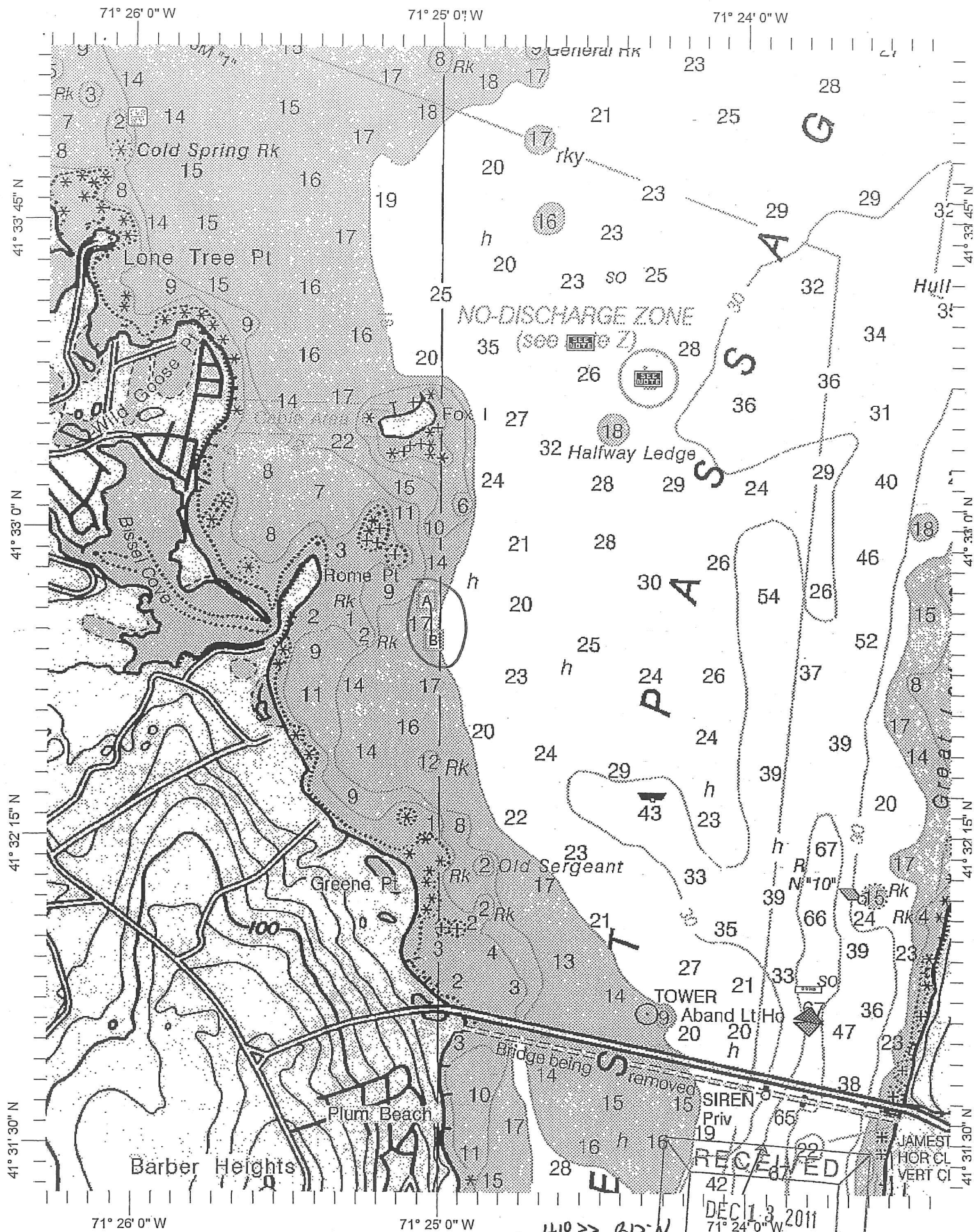


Chart Name: NARRAGANSETT BAY RI-MA
 Chart ID: 13221_1
 Top Left: 41° 34' 10" N 71° 26' 16" W
 Bottom Right: 41° 31' 22" N 71° 23' 20" W

A. 41° 32.812' N
 71° 25.033' W
 B. 41° 32.730' N
 71° 25.024' W

RECEIVED
 DEC 13 2011
 71° 24' 0" W
 C.R.M.C.

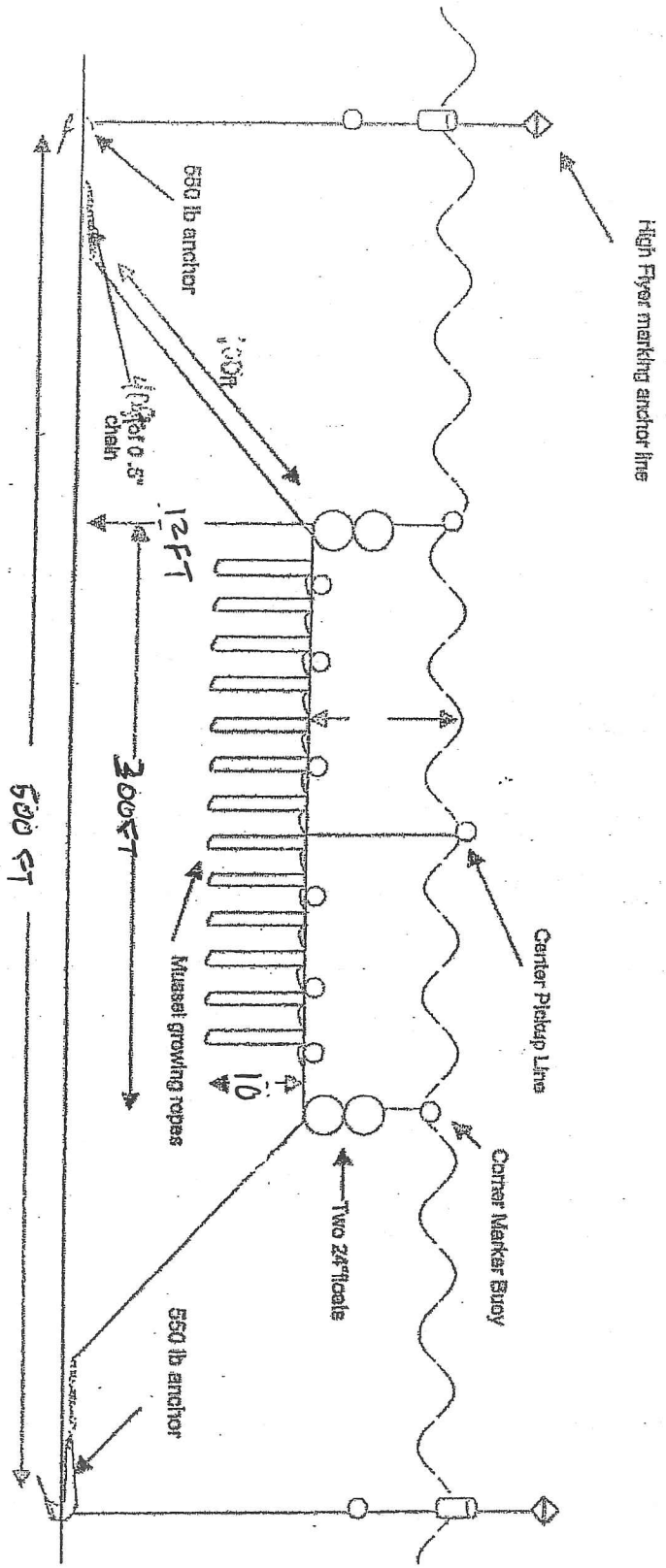
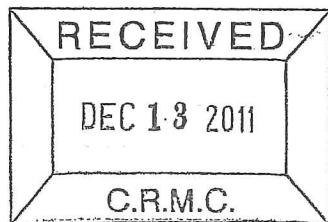


Figure 1. Schematic of a submerged longline with dimensions for deployment in water depths of approximately 17 ft (6 meters)

Mean low water: 17 ft
 Mean high water: 23 ft

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 DEC 13 2011
 C.R.M.C.



High Flyer marking anchor line

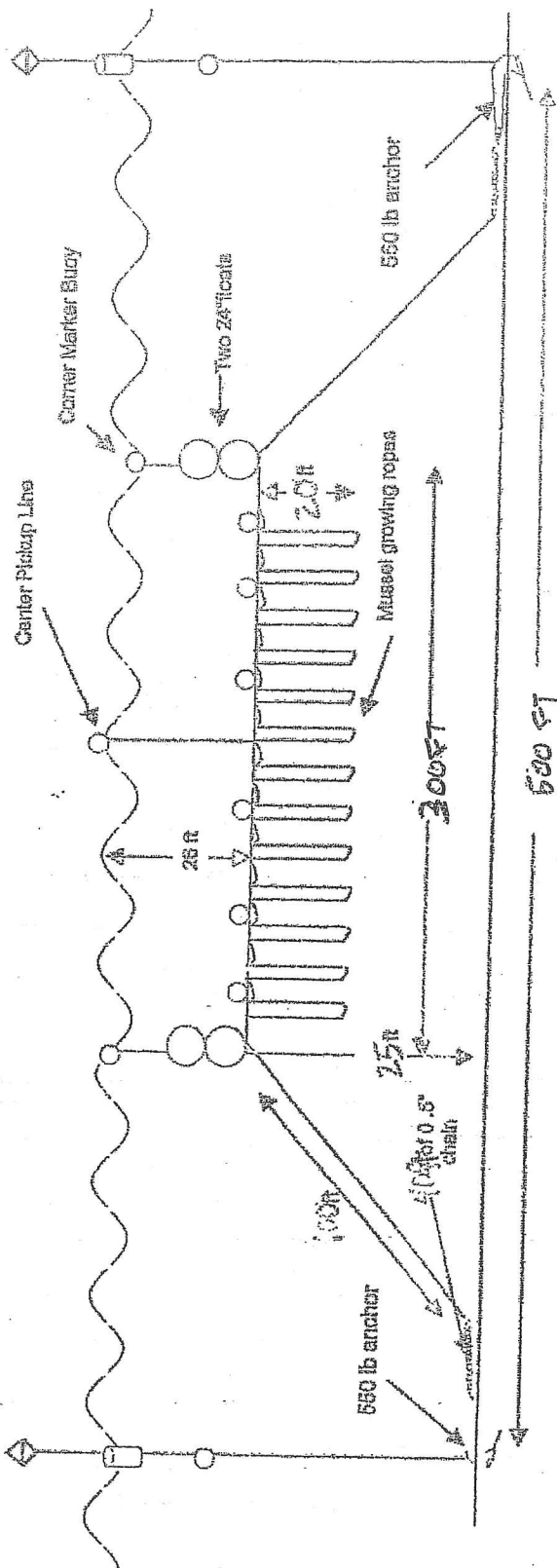
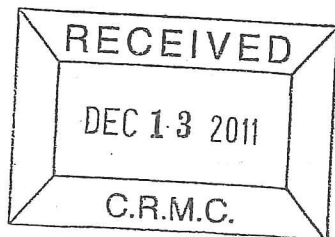


Figure 1. Schematic of a submerged longline with dimensions for deployment in water depths of approximately 50 ft (17 meters)

March 16, 2011

Mussel Seed Operations Plan

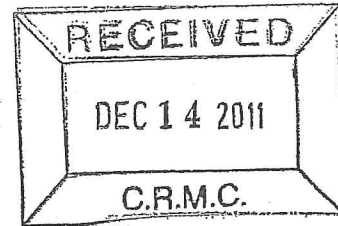
Mussel seed for this project will be harvested from Salt Water Farms in Narragansett Bay, RI. The seed is wild and naturally sets on the Farm gear hanging in the water column. The seed will be transferred by boat to the American Mussel (AMH) shellfish facility in North Kingstown, RI. While in the facility, it will be processed and graded by size then put into the cotton bisected mussel socks which will be hung on the grow-out line designated by the issued permit. While in storage at the facility, the seed may be placed in holding tanks depending on the duration of their stay. The tanks that they will be held in are part of a already permitted flow through system at the AMH facility.



2011 Mussel Line Summary

On 4-9-11 I installed my experimental Mussel line at Rome Point adhering to my original plan submitted to CRMC. Surprisingly, everything went smoothly and the installation was a success. On 4-19-11, 5-3-11 and 8-3-11, I went to check on the line to make sure it was still there and riding in the water column correctly. On 9-15-11 I planted the first of the Mussel seed on the line filling about 1/3 of the growing space. On 10-1-11 and 10-15-11, I returned to check the status of this initial plant as well as the state of the gear with the added weight of product. On 10-17-11, 10-22-11 and 10-26-11 I finished planting the remainder of the line with Mussel seed and on 11-16-11 I returned to check on everything.

When I left the line on 11-16-11, everything looked good. The boat has been hauled out for maintenance for the last couple of weeks and is going back in the water on Friday 12-16-11. I plan on taking a ride to Rome Point immediately to check on the status of the line at that time.



CRMC Mailing List for AdamSilkes
CRMC File Number 2011-12-027

Adam Silkes
65 Pierce Road
North Kingstown, RI 02852

Aquaculture mailing list

General List, Town of N. Kingstown

CRMC (2011-12-027)
O. S. Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road
Wakefield, RI 02879