



Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road; Suite 116
Wakefield, RI 02879
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PUBLIC NOTICE

File Number: 2013-04-057 (modification) Date: February 18, 2015

This office has under consideration the modification application of:

Adam Silkes
65 Pierce Road
North Kingstown, RI 02852

for a State of Rhode Island Assent to: add the Eastern oyster *Crassostrea virginica* to the candidate species to be grown on his 8.25 acre aquaculture site west of Jamestown (please see attachments)

Project Location:	Narragansett Bay
City/Town:	Jamestown
Plat/Lot:	Not applicable
Waterway:	West Passage Narragansett Bay

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.

CRMC Assent Modification Request for Aquaculture Assent No. A2013-04-057

Describe the proposed modification(s), including the reasons for change:

Modification:

As the owner of RI CRMC Aquaculture Assent A2013-04-057, I propose to add the Eastern Oyster, *Crassostrea virginica*, as an approved species to grow at my lease site in the waters off of the West side of Jamestown.

Seed of approximate ½" size will be purchased from approved vendors in the Spring of each year. After proper pathology reports are filed, the seed will be transferred to the lease and placed in plastic cages stacked together to form 'sets' of cages (see picture).

Throughout the growing season, as the oysters, as well as the biofouling on the sets grow, the gear will need to be serviced so that it doesn't get too heavy and sink to the bottom. This will be done with the same boat that will tend the already approved mussel operation at this lease area. This set service operation is simple; the boat will slowly move down the long lines (already in place) and systematically detach each set of oysters from the long line, put them in a custom built machine that washes the biofouling from the sets, as well as chips and cleans the oysters, then return the sets back to the water.


This operation will likely need to occur several times throughout the growing season. Once the oysters reach desired shape/size and have spent the DOH required amount of time in certified waters, they will be brought to market. All movement of each oyster from seed purchase, to planting on the farm, to processing on the farm, to being sold to market will be tracked via an excel spreadsheet, as well as a daily log book.

The convenient part of this modification is that ALL of the major construction work has already been done. All of the anchors and long lines are already in place at the lease. Upon approval, I would just need to purchase oyster seed and the sets to put them in and they will conveniently be easily installed on the existing longlines. No visual appearance at the farm will change whatsoever from what it is currently.



Reason:

The main reason I want to add oysters to the permit is because after spending countless hours this Fall 2014 planting mussels at the farm, Eider ducks came and decimated my entire crop in a few short weeks at the beginning of January 2015. I haven't given up on mussels as the main species for growing at the farm; I will just need to work on the timing of planting to avoid Eider duck predation. To make the company more versatile I would like to add oysters to the lease in case the Eider ducks continue to prevail.



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DIMENSIONS:

48" Tall

18" Wide

18" Deep

Gear Layout

*Diagram NOT
drawn to scale

2/6/15

mean low water: 40 Feet
near high water: 45 Feet

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