(401) 783-3370 Fax (401) 783-2069

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

File Number:	2021-11-067	 Date:	January 14, 2022	

This office has under consideration the application of:

David R. Blaney dba Point Judith Kelp Co. P O Box 3285 Narragansett, RI 02882

for a State of Rhode Island Assent to construct and maintain: a 5.49 acre expansion to the existing 2.75 acre seasonal (i.e. Nov. 1 to May 1) kelp farm, CRMC# 2015-07-027, for a total of 8.24 acres. See map and application attached for details.

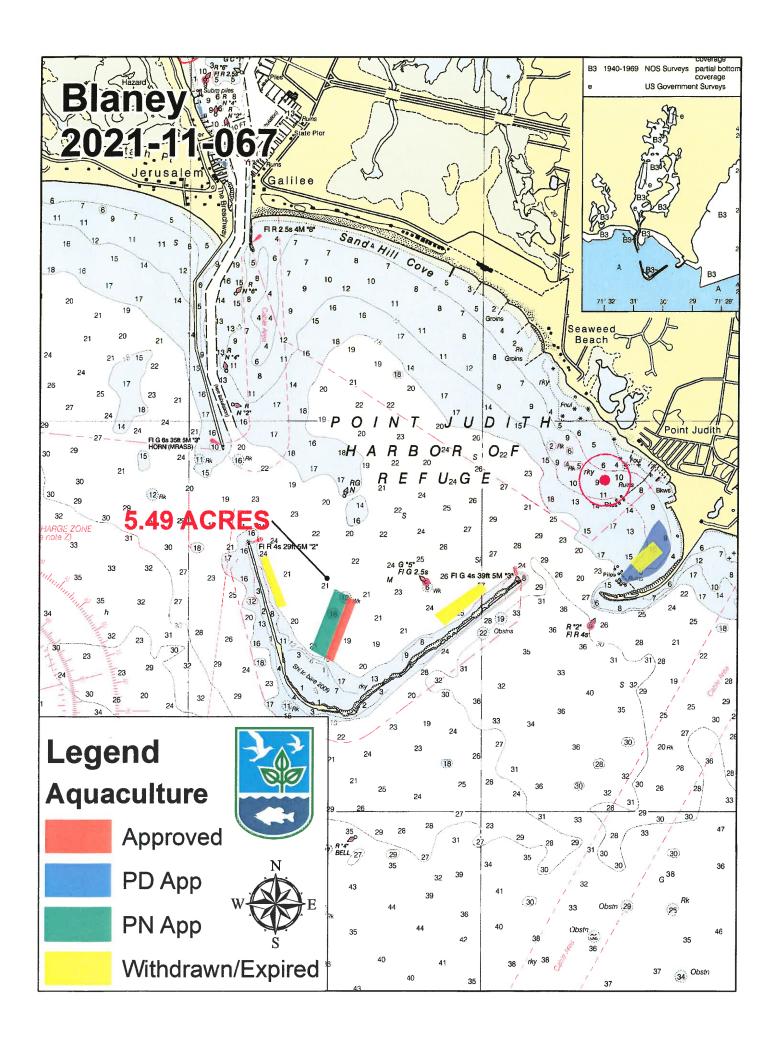
Project Location: Point Judith Harbor of Refuge, Point Judith	
City/Town:	Narragansett
Waterway:	Harbor of Refuge
Related CRMC files:	2015-07-027; 2021-08-029

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, that would in their opinion be violated by the work proposed.

If you desire to protest, you must attend the scheduled hearing and give sworn testime	ony.
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	n, it
should be in writing (with your correct mailing address, e-mail address and valid contact	t
<b>number</b> ) and be received at this office on or before February 14, 2022	







State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Coastal Resources Management Council Oliver H. Stedman Government Center 4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 3 Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

(401) 783-3370 Fax (401) 783-2069

## APPLICATION FOR STATE ASSENT

the file and/or assent numbers).

ANTACLUT TO EXISTING P. I. K Co. LEASE A-2015.03.073

Is this application being submitted in response to a coas	tal violation?			
If yes, you must indicate NOV or C&D Number	Yes	No	X	
Is this site within a designated historic district?	NO			

Owner's Signature (sign and print)

STORMTOOLS (<u>Http://www.beachsamp.org/resources/stormtools/</u>) is a planning tool to help applicants evaluate the impacts of sea level rise and storm surge on their projects. The Council encourages applicants to use STORMTOOLS to help them understand the risk that may be present at their site and make appropriate adjustments to the project design.

NOTE: The applicant acknowledges by evidence of their signature that they have reviewed the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Program, and have, where possible, adhered to the policies and standards of the program. Where variances or special exceptions are requested by the applicant, the applicant will be prepared to meet and present testimony on the criteria and burdens of proof for each of these relief provisions. The applicant also acknowledges by evidence of their signature that to the best of their knowledge the information contained in the application is true and valid. If the information provided to the CRMC for this review is inaccurate or did not reveal all necessary information or data, then the permit granted under this application may be found to be null and void. Applicant requires that as a condition to the granting of this assent, members of the CRMC or its staff shall have access to the applicant's property to make on-site inspections to insure compliance with the assent. This application is made under oath and subject to the penalties of perjury.

PLEASE REVIEW REVERSE SIDE OF APPLICATION FORM



#### STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE AND APPLICANT AGREEMENT AS TO FEES

The fees which must be submitted to the Coastal Resources Management Council are based upon representations made to the Coastal Resources Management Council by the applicant. If after submission of this fee the Coastal Resources Management Council determines that an error has been made either in the applicant's submission or in determining the fee to be paid, the applicant understands that additional fees may be assessed by the Coastal Resources Management Council. These fees must be paid prior to the issuance of any assent by the Coastal Resources Management Council.

The applicant understands the above conditions and agrees to comply with them.

//·/2-2/

Print Name and Mailing Address

DAVID R. BLANEY PO BOX 3285, MRRA, RI 02882

### **PROPOSAL**

David Blaney MMS 11.NOV.2021

Kelp farming, as well as the farming of various other seaweeds, is a significant and growing industry worldwide. Seaweeds, especially kelp, are used for food, medicinal products, chemical derivatives, and bioremediation. In addition to increased worldwide consumption, a recent development is the growing and harvesting of kelp for conversion to biofuels. Over the past five years, Point Judith Kelp Co. has had success in cultivating kelp in its current site and needs to expand that production to meet rising demand.

Further development of sea vegetable production in Rhode Island will give the State and the local economy a share in this rapidly developing industry. This project will add 2 to 4 full time jobs and 10 to 12 part time seasonal, local jobs.

To conduct any type of food production, an artificial form of the environment in which the selected species naturally exists must be created. The purpose being to provide an ideal set of conditions for growth. In the case of seaweeds, particularly the species of kelps selected for this project. The natural life cycle of kelp plants produces one harvestable sporophyte (adult) population per year. Species to be cultivated is Sugar Kelp (*Saccharina latissima*), a species native to North America. No non- native species will be introduced. Seed will be produced from locally accessed kelp strains.

Product processing, and distribution will be thru approved local, seafood whole salers thru-out southern New England.

We are proposing an expansion of 5.75 acres to our existing 2.75 acre lease located in Point Judith Harbor of Refuge, in The Town of Narragansett.

Capt. David Blaney MMS

11.NOV.2021

CAPT. D. R. BIM MMS

Point Judith Kelp Co.

Snug Harbor, RI 02879

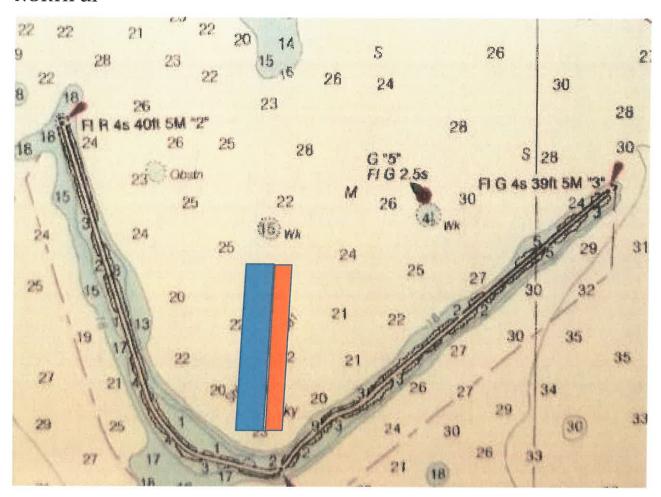
401.792.1538

RECEIVED

DEC 29 2021

COASTAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

## **NORTH UP**



# PROPOSED SITE LOCATION 240 X 1000 AREA 5.49 AC



NW CORNER 41.35943 X 71.50832

NE CORNER 41.35913 X 71.50756

SW CORNER 41.35693 X 71.50963

SE CORNER 41.35659 X 71.50882

**EXISTING SITE LOCATION** 120 X 1000 AREA 2.75 AC



NW CORNER 41.359129 X 71.507562

NE CORNER 41.358953 X 71.507190

SW CORNER 41.356587 X 71.508825

SE CORNER 41.356427 X 50846



#### LOCATION of PROPOSED SITE

Point Judith harbor of Refuge, adjacent to existing Point Judith Kelp Co lease.

NW Corner 41.359943 x 71.50832 NE Corner 41.35913 x 71.507756

SW Corner 41.35693 x 71.50963 SE Corner 41.35659 x 71.50882

5.49 acres High Mean Depth 22 to 24 feet

This configuration describes a rectangle 240 feet by 1000 creating a footprint of 5.50 acres. This configuration presents a profile, less likely to interfere with other vessels navigating the area. Site is located approximately 4800 feet from the nearest shoreline, being Rodger Wheeler State Beach. There are no riparian landowners within 4800 feet of this site.

### **DESCRIPTION of PROPOSED SITE**

- 1. General Physical Characteristics- The site is located within the V shaped protective barrier known as the Point Judith Harbor of Refuge. A man made structure originally built in the 1890's of granite riprap with an elevation of est. 8 feet at mean low water, to awash at extreme high tide and storms. This structure slopes out to varying angles to a contoured scarified gravel and soft mud sediment.
- 2. The site is adjacent and continuous of our existing site.
- 3. Approximate Depth- 20 to 24 feet
- 4. Topography- sloping to flat sediment and ledge.
- 5. Flora and Fauna- based on reported historical anecdotal observations and ell grass map. Indicate no observed lobster, worm, anemones, or eel grass especially during winter months.
  - The presence of seaweed cultivation will undoubtedly enhance the habitat in this area providing shade shelter and nursery conditions for juvenile fish, invertebrates, and sea birds.
  - Tidal Flushing and Turbidity- Current in this area runs a reported 0 to 2.5 kts. Largely flowing in an Easterly and Westerly direction, giving access to nutrients required for growth. The type of gear proposed will have little or no effect on sedimentation or contribute to an increase in turbidity.
- 6. The proposed site is in waters approved for shell fishing.



## FARM DESCRIPTION and OPERATIONAL PARAMETERS

Farm equipment will be a system of, a maximum seven, parallel, 950 foot long ½" grow out lines, spaced 50 feet apart. Grow out lines will be suspended at 3.5 feet in the water column by buoys every 30 feet. Grow out lines will be moored at each end and midpoint by 500 lb. mushroom moorings and 450lb. fisherman type anchors. Overall depth at M.H.W. 22 to 24 feet. This system has proven effective in our existing farm. Total overall farm dimensions will be 5.73 acres. Current in this area runs 0 to 2.5 kts. Largely flowing in an Easterly and Westerly direction, giving access to nutrients required for growth. The type of gear proposed will have little or no effect on sedimentation or contribute to an increase in turbidity

The corners of the site will be marked with 22" mooring type PVC buoys secured with 400 lb. moorings, and fisherman type anchors. There will be 11" buoys at 250 foot intervals moored in the same manner. Seed/grow line is supported every 30' by 11" Spongex type buoy. All labeled according to regulations. Site corners are marked with radar reflectors, reflective tape and US Coast Guard approved solar light.

Cultivation schedule for *Saccharina Latissima*, is based on setting gear approx. 1 November. Planting in early November and harvesting approximately 1 May. All grow equipment will be removed after harvest by 1 May. This time frame also eliminates possible interaction with other user groups.

Most activity at the site will be conducted from small vessels except for initial setting of moorings and gear. This will minimize the visual impact of the operation. No power washing or processing activity will take place at the site.

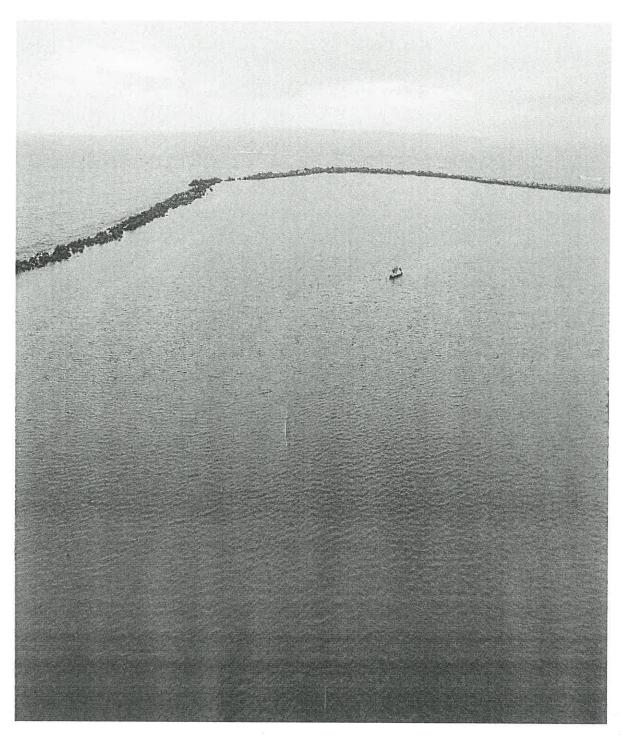
All operations will be conducted in compliance with state and local laws. All vessels will conform to U.S. Coast Guard regulations for fishing vessels operating in state waters. Where applicable OSHA and NIOSH guidelines will be followed.



## Response to CRMC Section D

- 1. We will be able to provide local, fresh grown sea vegetables to satisfy consumer demand.
- 2. All applicable Federal, State and Local zoning ordinances, building codes, flood hazard standards, and all safety codes, fire codes and environmental requirements will be met.
- 3. Due to the distance from nearest land, (avg. 2800'), we do not anticipate the activities described to have any affect upon adjacent coastal waters or land area.
- 4. We do not anticipate the described activity to have any erosional or depositional impact along nearby shore or tidal areas.
- 5. The type of equipment use will have little or no effect upon abundance or diversity of currently naturally occurring organisms.
- 6. Due to the timing of operations, (Nov.-May), we anticipate no user conflict for this area. There will be no impact on existing public access to or restrictions to use of tidal areas to the public. Access for equipment, vessels etc. will be from a commercial marina in Snug Harbor and from The Port of Galilee.
- 7. The activity described will have minimal impact on water circulation, flushing, turbidity or be a cause of sedimentation, or flora and fauna-based on reported historical anecdotal observations and ell grass map. Indicate no observed lobster, worm, anemones, or ell grass especially during winter months.
- 8. Research (*Yaris, and others*) Indicates the presence of seaweed cultivation enhances the adjacent habitat by providing shade shelter and nursery conditions for juvenile fish invertebrates and sea birds. Kelp's nitrogen uptake capabilities have a positive impact upon water quality.
- 9. There is no evidence of any historical or archeological sites that would be affected by the described activity.
- 10. Due to the seasonality of the proposed activity, (Nov.-May), we anticipate very little impact on other user groups for this area.
- 11. The sighting of the proposed activity, the minimum of equipment on sight, and the average distance of about 2800' from nearest land will minimize and visual impacts.
- 12. Point Judith Kelp Co. has been operating a successful, existing seaweed grow operation for five years.

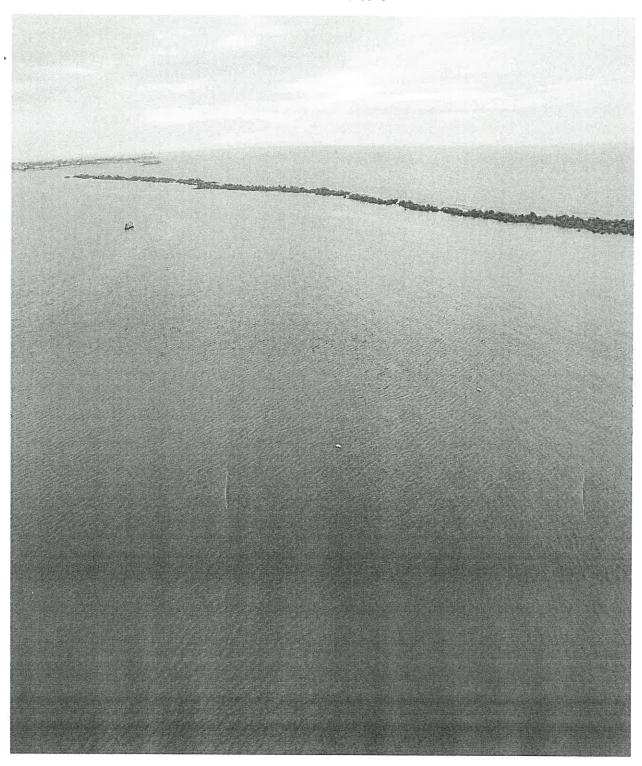




**VIEW SOUTH** 



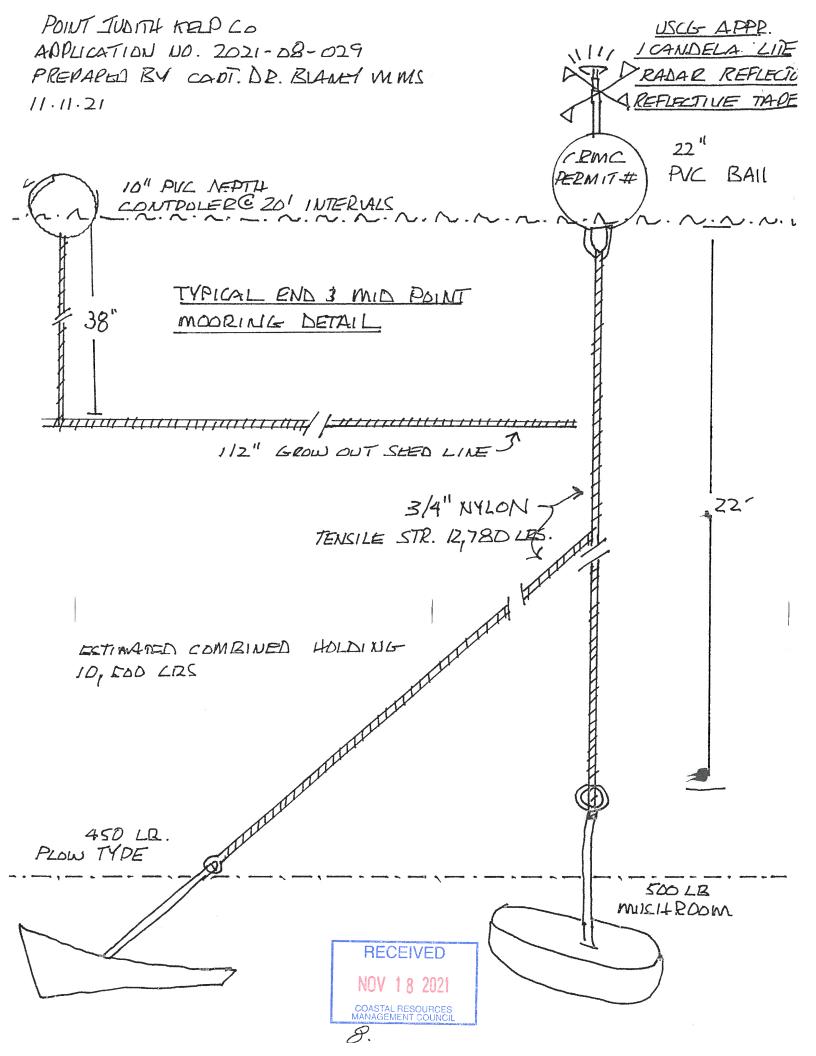
41.356715 x 71.508975



VIEW NORTH

41.359904 x 71.509833





POINT INDITH KELP CO CRIMC ADPLICATION NO 2021-08-029 DOEPARED BY CAPT DR BLANCI WIMI 11.11.2021 NOETH SITE CORNER WITH RANAR 4 41.35913 L REFLECTUR 3 SOLAR LIGHT 8 71.50756 [1.35983 450 LB \$ 500 LB 11.50832 TERMINAL 3 MID POINT INTERMEDIATE MODRING 200 LR MISHROOMS GROW OUT SHED LINE 950' DEPTH CONTROLEIR @ 20' INTERVALE 41.35659 71.50882 71.50963

