

**RECEIVED AFTER
PUBLIC NOTICE
EXPIRATION DATE**

150 Ocean Avenue
Wakefield, R. I. 02879
September 29, 2020

Coast Resource Management Council
4808 Tower Hill Road #116
Wakefield, R.I. 02879

Re: File # 2017-12-086 Expansion of Oyster Farm in Potter's Pond

Dear Members of the CRMC:

On my daily paddle in Potter's Pond I came across markers that may be related to the above application of Perry Raso to block off three more acres of the pond for his exclusive use for his oyster farm.

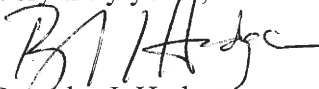
Allowing oyster frames in the area proposed would cause a great danger and a hardship to the many families that use this area for recreation., including mine. There are at least 25 small motor boats moored in this cove, and many people also use the area for paddle boarding and kayaking.

Motor boats entering the cove need to take wide turns to avoid the shore and smaller craft. Many people enjoy water-skiing, and this sport requires boats to be able to make wide loops. When I have been in the area in a small rowboat, it has been crucial to be able to get into the area that would be affected by the permit in order to avoid the skiers and the wake. If this area were occupied by oyster frames, the whole cove would be too hazardous for small craft and paddle boarders to use.

Like other summer residents, I am fearful that the Council will take up Mr. Raso's application in the off-season and deprive the hundreds of people who use the cove of our opportunity to be heard.

The extra profit that Mr. Raso seeks does not justify depriving so many citizens of recreational use, creating a safety hazard. This summer, with so few activities available, full access to water sports was so crucial. Please do not grant this application.

Very truly yours,


Beverly J. Hodgson



17 Temple Court
New Haven, CT 06511
March 30, 2020

R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver H. Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 3
Wakefield, R.I. 02879-1900

Re: CRMC File 2017 12 086 Application of Perry Raso

Dear Council Members:

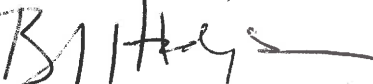
Thank you for the March 24 notice stating that meetings to consider the above application are on hold.

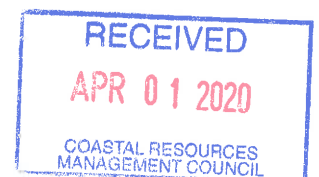
Your message mentions the possibility of some altered hearing procedure. I strongly object to any plan to hold hearings on this application by video conference or any other means that would limit the ability of the public to attend and be heard in a meaningful manner. For thirty-five years I have owned property on Potter Pond and my family has been injured in our recreational use and enjoyment of the pond by Mr. Raso's current operation and we do not want it to be expanded under cover of a pandemic.

There is certainly no emergency reason to consider this application, which has been made solely to increase profits for a private business and not to address any environmental problem with Potter Pond or otherwise benefit the pond, abutters or the general public.

Kindly send further notices of any action or scheduled event on this application to the above address and to 150 Ocean Avenue, Wakefield, R.I. and/or by email to beverly.j.hodgson@gmail.com.

With best wishes,


Beverly J. Hodgson



Dave Beutel

2017-12-086

From: Robert Hefner <bob.hefner@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 02, 2018 3:27 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Fw: Potter Pond Clinging Jellyfish health hazard
Attachments: JellyFishSLIPPERY INVADER.docx

Dear Mr Buetel,

Here is the front page article the Providence Journal ran a few weeks ago. As you may know there were three case of humans being stung by them in Potters and Pt. Judith ponds. A team from Montclair State heard about the stings and sent a team to investigate. Paul Bologna, director of Montclair State's Marine Biology and Costal sciences Program was quoted " It's a public health issue, are you going to let your kids go in the water if they end up in the hospital/"

The Montclair team was accompanied by John Lake, supervising biologist at RI DEM. On the first trip they pulled up nets crowded with 10 or more clinging jelly fish at a time and found about 250 in all. They state that Salt Ponds offer the perfect habitat for this species, where sea grasses are more common and where oyster farms offer shelter.

I suspect the existing Oyster Farm on Potter's pond has spawned the current batch of clinging Jelly fish and I certainly can't see how CRMS can add addition acreage to Oyster farming given the danger these fish pose to humans.

Have you looked into this issue with regards to Mr. Raso's application and have the experts at CRMC and or URI School of Oceanography weighed in on this issue. If not would you instigate such an investigation. While there are enough reasons already to reject Mr. Raso's application (file number 2017-12-086) to expand his Oyster Farm into Segar cove this new threat to public safety should be fully researched and the CRMS voting council members should be aware of this threat prior to the meeting where they will be asked to vote on the project.

Will this "clinging Jellyfish" concern be passed along to the CRMC voting member board. Has CRMS already completed a study regarding the clinging jellyfish and the likelihood that Oyster farms serve as incubators for this invasive, dangerous species and if so can you share that with me?

In closing, has a date for the hearing on Mr. Raso's application been set, and if so can you share that date with me.

Thank you for you attention this matter.
Best Regards,

Bob Hefner
bob.hefner@hotmail.com
401 332 9931

SOURCE: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / TOM MURPHY

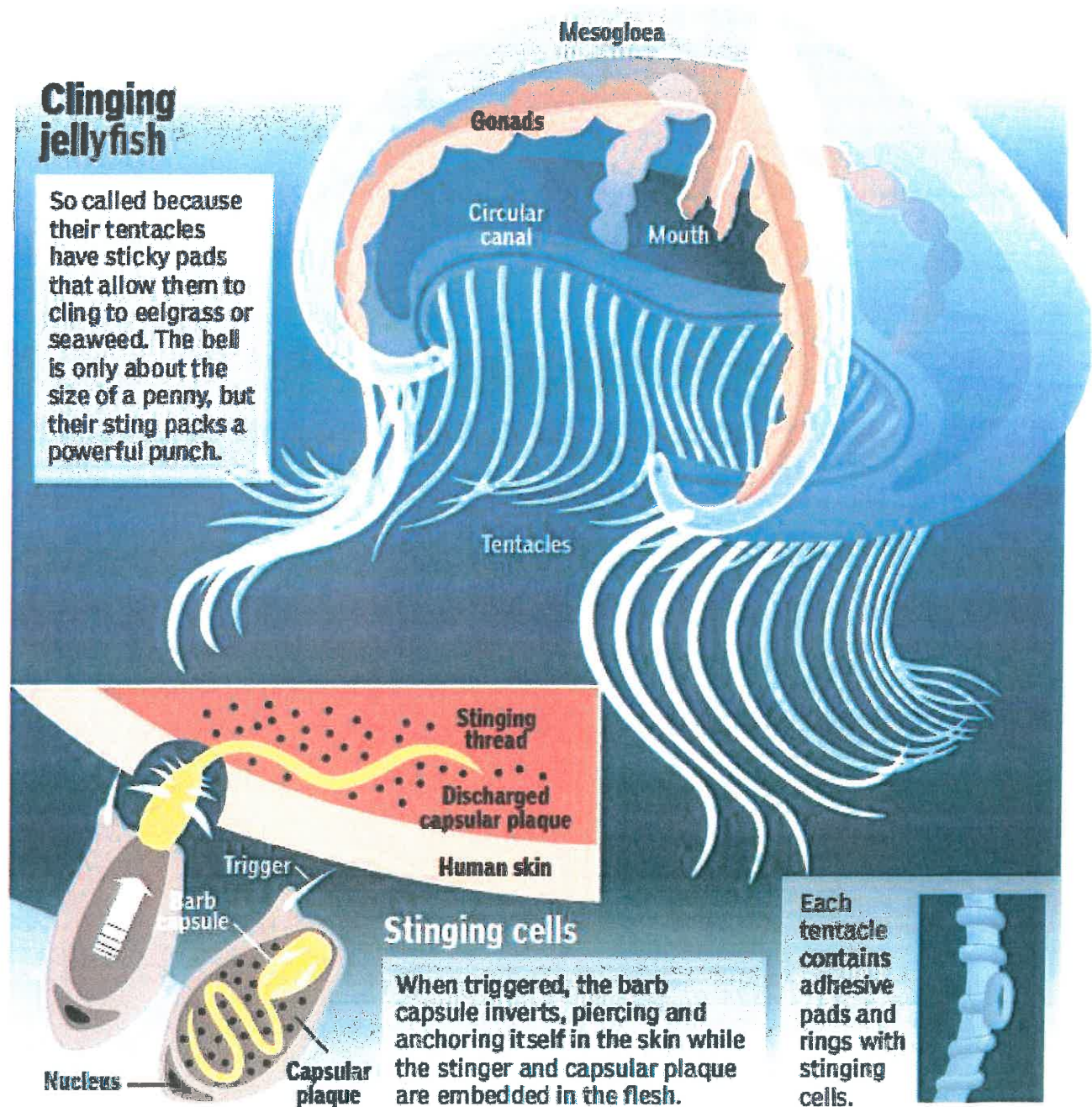


Actual size

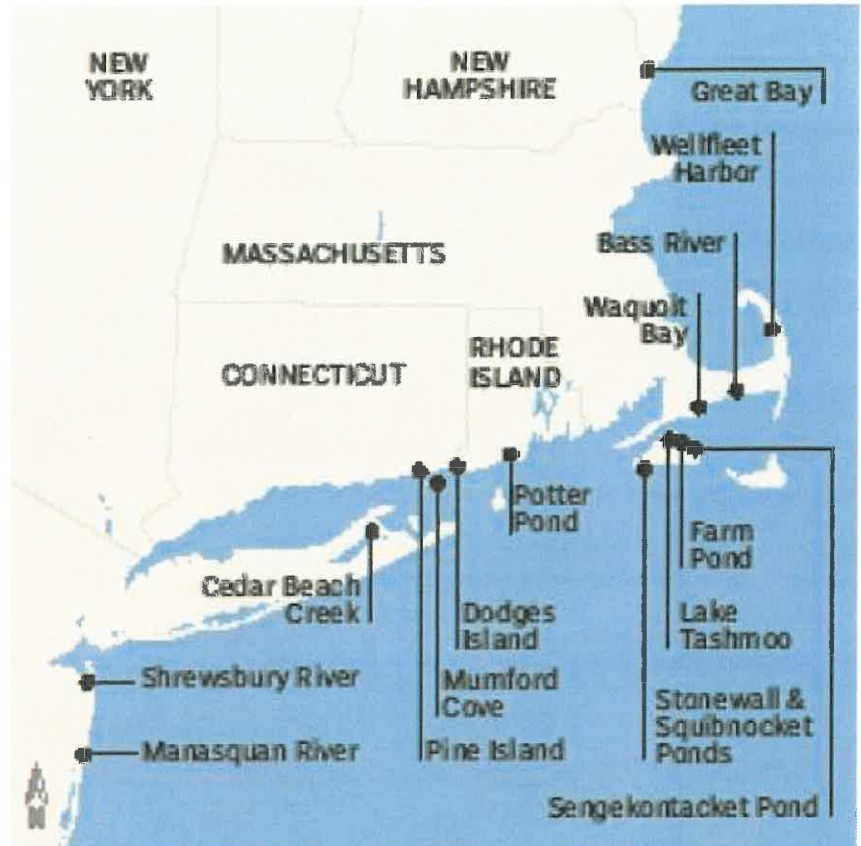
SLIPPERY INVADER

Tiny clinging jellyfish that pack an agonizing sting are turning up in R.I. waters amid environmental changes and shifting ecosystems

By Alex Kuffner Journal Staff Writer



Clinging Jellyfish observed 1990 - 2017

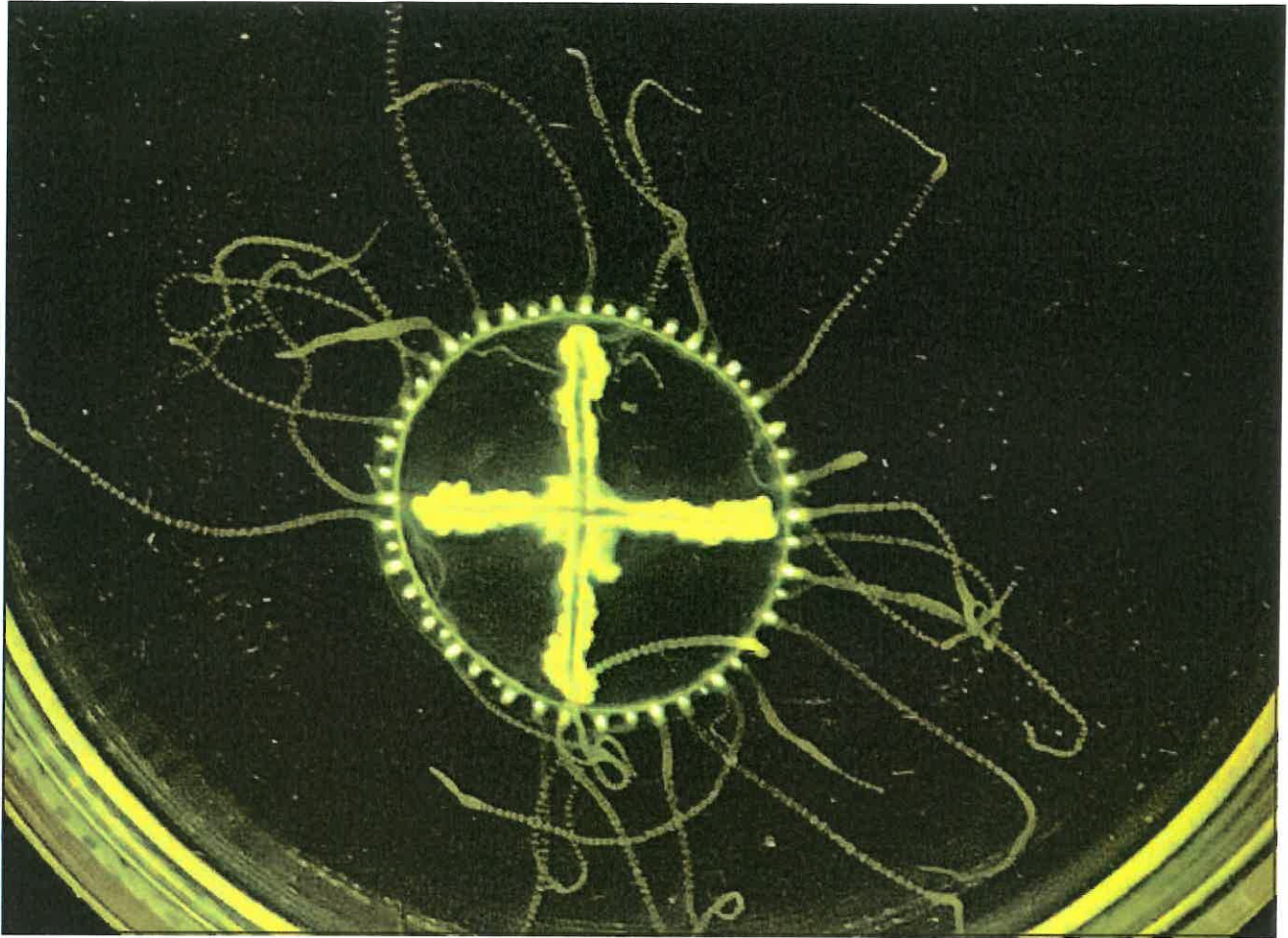


SOURCE: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute

THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL



Montclair State University graduate students Matt Rigby and Alorah Bliese comb through eelgrass pulled up from the bottom of South Kingstown's Potter Pond in August during a search for clinging jellyfish. [THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL / ALEX KUFFNER]



Illumination of a clinging jellyfish shows the distinctive cross-shaped arrangement of its internal organs. The jellyfish injects toxin from barbs hidden in the stinging cells on its tentacles, causing intense pain and sometimes systemic reactions in those who are stung. [COURTESY OF MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY]

SOUTH KINGSTOWN

Matt Rigby and Alorah Bliese pull up net after net filled with eelgrass and algae from the bottom of Potter Pond.

The two graduate students at New Jersey's Montclair State University dump the contents into a Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management skiff and comb through the tangled mess for animals hidden within. They pick out feisty mud crabs and delicate shrimp, slender pike and fat starfish, but two hours into their search on this late-August day, they haven't found what they're looking for: the clinging jellyfish, a tiny, near-invisible creature that resembles a delicate glass ornament but packs a wallop sting.

The invasive jelly has been spotted before in Rhode Island, but this past summer was the first time people reported getting stung, with three cases in Potter and Point Judith ponds, in South Kingstown and Narragansett, according to the DEM.

Not much is known about the animal here in the Northeast, so the agency welcomed the researchers from New Jersey, who have been tracking the recent appearance of “clingers” in their state and around New England. One of their tasks is to figure out the exact types of clinging jellyfish that have been found. While people in Rhode Island reported painful stings and rashes, the cases in New Jersey have so far been more severe, with victims being hospitalized for respiratory and systemic reactions.

Whether there are differences between the jellies in the states is one of the questions that they and other researchers are trying to answer: Where did the species come from? Is its sting becoming more toxic? Is climate change playing a role in its spread?

“I think that each time we learn something new, it opens up a suite of questions,” says Annette F. Govindarajan, a biologist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.

The Montclair State team found hundreds of the jellies a few weeks before in Potter Pond, yet, true to the animal’s confounding nature, it was proving to be elusive on this sunny afternoon.

The clinging jellyfish is named for its habit of using sticky tentacles to grasp sea plants in the underwater meadows it inhabits.

Native to the northern Pacific Ocean, it’s one of any number of invasive species that have appeared in places where they had never been found before as part of a trend that scientists expect to intensify as environmental conditions shift and ecosystems are thrown out of balance.

In the Northeast, think of the gypsy moth, which escaped from a failed silk-weaving experiment in Massachusetts, or the Asian shore crab, which probably arrived in the ballast of ships. Unlike the moth, whose caterpillar has defoliated forests, or the crab, which has displaced lobsters and other native crustaceans, the jellyfish long maintained a more benign presence in the region, its range limited and its numbers low.

But a spate of stings in recent years has spurred a concern that the species could become a menace to humans.

“It’s a public health issue,” says Paul Bologna, director of Montclair State’s Marine Biology and Coastal Sciences Program. “Are you going to let your kids go in the water if they end up in the hospital?”

Harvard naturalist Alexander Agassiz first documented large numbers of the species in kelp beds off Washington state in 1862. Clinging jellyfish showed up in Woods Hole,

Massachusetts, in 1894 and were soon observed elsewhere around Cape Cod and Groton, Connecticut.

Theories abound about how the animal got to the Atlantic Coast. Perhaps jellies came in ballast water or as polyps — an early stage in their life cycle — attached to ships from the Mediterranean, which had gone through an earlier invasion of the species. They could have hitched a ride on oysters brought from Europe or on seaweed used to pack clams from Puget Sound in Washington state. Curiously, scientists at the time never reported any stings from handling them.

Apart from a remnant group on Martha's Vineyard, the creatures all but disappeared in the 1930s, when a wasting disease wiped out nearly all the eelgrass beds on the Atlantic Coast.

But in 1990, the first stings on Cape Cod were reported. Since then, the animal has spread to parts of New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Long Island and New Jersey. Globally, the jelly has turned up as far south as Argentina and as far north as Norway.

It's unclear when the species arrived in Potter or Point Judith ponds, but it was found for the first time last June in the Narrow River, in Narragansett.

Because stings by clinging jellyfish were historically reported only off Russia and Japan, it's believed that different varieties of the animal exist: a toxic type native to the western Pacific and a harmless one in the eastern Pacific.

Pointing to the absence of stings in the Northeast before 1990 and the prevalence since, Govindarajan has theorized a second invasion of the species. But she doesn't discount the possibility of a resurgence in the original 19th-century intruders, or even that there may have been a native population in the region all along.

"I don't think any of the possibilities are mutually exclusive," she says. "There could be several things going on."

Unlike snakes or spiders, which deliver a single dose of venom using fangs, jellyfish inject innumerable micro-doses of toxin from barbs hidden in the stinging cells on their tentacles.

What does it feel like to be stung by a clinging jellyfish? Studies in Japan and Russia, where there have been outbreaks in which hundreds of people have been stung on a single day, list burning of the skin, difficulty breathing and liver and kidney problems. In some cases, the sting has caused temporary blindness or deafness.

The "Handbook of Clinical Toxicology of Animal Venoms and Poisons" describes "neuropsychiatric derangement in some victims." The effects have been compared to Irukandji syndrome, a condition caused by the sting of box jellyfish in Australia that is characterized by a feeling of impending doom. Although symptoms from clinging jellyfish venom can persist for days, no deaths have ever been reported.

Mary Carman, a colleague of Govindarajan's at Woods Hole, was stung on the face in 2013 and described the pain as similar to having "five hypodermic needles" plunged into her skin. A swimmer on the Cape suffered temporary paralysis after encountering the jelly. One man in New Jersey compared the sting to being jabbed with "a thousand ice picks."

The first person to be stung in New Jersey suffered full-body muscle spasms, was put on a morphine drip, and spent nearly three days in the hospital.

"I thought I was going to die," Matt Carlo told the Asbury Park Press.

Two years ago, Moise Solomon was swimming in Mumford Cove in Groton, Connecticut, when he felt as if he had been stabbed. He was taken to the emergency room with high blood pressure, an elevated heart rate and chest pains.

"I had never had such a reaction to a jellyfish sting before or afterward," says Solomon, who has vowed to never again swim in an eelgrass bed at low tide.

As part of Bologna's research at Montclair State, he has stung himself with mushroom jellies and rubbed the still-toxic tentacles of a dead Portuguese man o' war across his arm. He has been stung on the face by a lion's mane jellyfish and says it's considered a rite of passage in his lab to experience a sea nettle sting. Colleagues have prodded him to see what a sting from a clinging jellyfish feels like.

"With all the people I've met who've gotten stung, I know I don't want to try it," he says.

After launching from a boat ramp in South Kingstown back in August, John Lake, supervising biologist with the DEM, steers through the channel that leads into Potter Pond, passing Matunuck Oyster Bar and the summer visitors enjoying lobster rolls and fried clams on the outdoor terrace.

Rigby and Bliese are making the second trip by the Montclair State team to Rhode Island. On the first visit, earlier that month, Rigby and another student pulled up nets crowded with 10 or more clinging jellyfish at a time and found about 250 in all. The animals ranged in age, so even though the jelly typically lives as a free-floating adult for only a couple of months every summer, the researchers are expecting to find many more.

Jellyfish are not actually fish, but are members of a distinct phylum that includes sea anemones and corals. Unlike their cousins that float on currents in the open ocean, clinging jellyfish prefer waters away from the hammering of waves. Salt ponds offer a perfect habitat, where sea grasses are more common and where oyster farms may also offer shelter.

The creatures spend daylight hours at the bottom of the water column and come out at night to feed, swimming upward by contracting and extending their tentacles, then flipping over to catch small crustaceans called copepods and fish larvae to eat.

With the clinging jellyfish's transparent body, the internal organs are visible, forming the distinct orange-brown cross that Rigby and Bliese look for as they start scooping plants from the pond. They start in Seaweed Cove, in the southern part of the pond, and then make their way to Sycamore Cove, in the middle part. At each stop, Lake takes temperature, dissolved oxygen and salinity readings. At each stop, there are no jellyfish.

"It's hard to believe after we found so many before," Lake says.

"Did we already go to the place where you pulled up a lot last time?" Bliese asks.

"This is it," Lake responds.

At any one time last summer, Bologna had as many as 700 clinging jellyfish in his lab at Montclair State.

Inside two rooms cluttered with nets, waders and tanks filled with "jellyfish attracting devices" — tile squares with green ribbons attached to mimic eelgrass — he and his team have spent the last two years running experiments on jellies they've found around the Northeast.

The tanks are empty of the animals now, but Bologna keeps the water warm and oxygenated just in case easy-to-miss polyps left behind by reproducing adults are hidden somewhere. Nobody has been able to actively cultivate the animals, so the only way to grow them in the lab is by chance.

Until 2016, Bologna, a specialist in sea grass habitats, paid only passing attention to jellyfish. But at a conference that spring, he met Govindarajan and Carman, from Woods Hole, and they asked if he had come across clinging jellyfish in any of his field research. He hadn't, but he promised to keep an eye out.

Two months later, an aquarium in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey, told him that a fisherman had found an unidentified jelly in a canal. It turned out to be a clinging jellyfish. Within days, the first sting in New Jersey was reported. Two more cases followed this past summer, both requiring hospitalization.

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection enlisted Bologna's lab to find out more about the animals, and since then, he and his students have surveyed the waters around the state, finding more and more jellies as time goes on. They've traveled to Martha's Vineyard and Connecticut to collect specimens. When Bologna heard about the cases in Rhode Island, he contacted the DEM.

Bologna believes the jellies may have been in New Jersey for a century or more, after tagging along on European ships in a phenomenon he calls "the Ellis Island effect." But their numbers were probably small and they went unnoticed, living out their short adult phase before the height of the beach season.

The right conditions for the jelly may have simply come together in recent years. One theory is that Superstorm Sandy in 2012 wiped out numbers of sea nettles — another type of jelly, which preys on clinging jellyfish — leaving some coastal waters relatively free of a chief predator.

Just like the team at Woods Hole, the Montclair State scientists have found a genetic connection between some of the jellies in the Northeast and those found in north Asia. But they can't explain why others, found exclusively in New Jersey, have slightly different genetics and whether that explains why the stings have been so bad there.

They also don't know how the animal is spreading. Jellies are undoubtedly reproducing each summer, but where they leave the polyps that will overwinter and then spawn adults the following year is a mystery.

Jack Gaynor, a molecular biologist at Montclair State, says he recently saw someone selling a used dock and ominously imagined it carrying innumerable polyps to new waters. But he also says something as small as a piece of seaweed could do the trick.

Jellies are durable creatures, able to survive in higher water temperatures and lower oxygen levels that kill their competitors — the type of conditions that are becoming more common as the climate changes. Jellyfish numbers have spiked in the Sea of Japan and the Mediterranean, and the animals are thriving globally. A recent study published in the journal *Wilderness and Environmental Medicine* projects an increase in the populations of certain poisonous marine creatures, including jellyfish.

When it comes to clinging jellyfish, Bologna is certain of one thing:

“There's every reason to believe there'll be even more next year.”

With the sun waning in the hazy sky over Potter Pond, Rigby lets out an exclamation as he crouches over yet another clump of watery plants.

“Finally,” he says.

Wearing dish gloves for protection, he lifts out a glob of algae and picks it apart to reveal a gelatinous bulb about the size of a quarter with a telltale cross on its body. Squeezing a pipette dropper, he uses its suction to grab hold of the slippery jelly and then drops the animal into a glass jar, where it lazily pulses through the water.

An hour passes with no more clinging jellyfish found, so Lake steers the skiff back to shore. Rigby can't explain why the animals disappeared. Maybe they just reached the end of their lives. Or perhaps some environmental factor changed. Temperatures spiked the previous week. Heavy rains may have played with the pond's salinity.

As he unloads equipment from the boat, Rigby studies the single specimen. The jelly should have as many as 90 long tentacles, but it has far fewer, and the ones it does have are stubby.

“This one doesn’t even look that good,” he complains.

Lake understands the scientific value of finding more jellies, but he couldn’t be happier with the day’s meager catch.

“To be honest, I’m glad they’re gone,” he says.

At least until next summer, when DEM scientists and the Montclair State team will be monitoring for any new signs of clinging jellyfish in Rhode Island.

— akuffner@providence-journal.com

(401) 277-7457

On Twitter: @KuffnerAlex

From: Kathy Winsor <kathywinsor@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 10:04 AM
To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Perry Raso's application/ Potter Pond

*Confirmed on
mailing list*

To Lisa Turner:

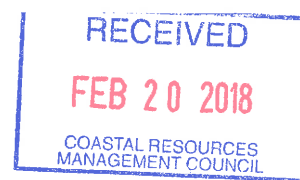
I believe I may have added my email address to your list already but just making sure. I would like to be contacted regarding Perry Raso's application to extend his oyster farm in Potter Pond.

I live at the Village of Potter Pond and we are already finding the farm to be hindering boating and enjoyment of the pond and are against the debris (plastic and rope) that accumulates on the beach from this farm.

Please contact me in regards to any meetings on this.

Thank you,

Kathy Winsor



January 18, 2018

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

**Re: File # 2017-12-086
Raso application, Segar Cove, Potter Pond**

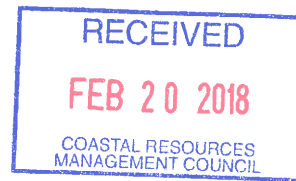
Ladies and Gentlemen:

Per your Public Notice dated January 3, 2017, I write to object to the proposal and request a hearing.

Our family has been at 298 Prospect Road for the better part of a half-century. I strongly object to the applicant's contention that the farm will have very little impact on the recreational uses of Segar Cove. It will have a transformative **NEGATIVE** impact on how our family, and the general public, recreate on Segar Cove and Potter Pond.

The elimination of those three acres of water for public usage and recreation will have a cascading negative effect on other activities and lead to dangerous conditions for all concerned. While looked at in isolation, it would seem that the proposal would have limited impact, but, viewed **in the proper context** (busy summer season, hot day, pond full of boats, etc.) it would significantly alter the dynamic of how Segar Cove can actually be safely used.

Of primary concern are motorized watersports – skiing, wakeboarding, tubing, etc. In all of those cases, boats use that area of the cove to **TURN AROUND**. If they can't turn around there, they'll be forced out into the middle of the pond, the precise location where other boats will be attempting to do the same. This will lead to dangerous congestion and perilous conditions for anybody being dragged behind a boat on skis or a tube. This is especially true during the busy summer months. From the deck at 298 Prospect, it's not unusual to see 4 or 5 boats tubing and skiing at the same time in Segar Cove. Even without the proposed farm, this can be tricky, and requires constant vigilance and caution on the part of the boat's captain. Anytime we take the kids or visiting friends tubing or skiing, we pay special attention to instructing them on what to do if they fall – raise arms, splash hands, etc. – all to make certain they remain visible to the numerous other watercraft on the cove. The removal of that acreage from the useable water will only increase the likelihood of somebody being accidentally run over by another boat or jet ski, the growing popularity of which and extreme rates of speed only add further risk.



Many of the issues raised above will also be applicable to non-motorized watersports, like paddle boarding, kayaking, swimming, etc., as the same danger of congestion and potential accidents will apply. My nieces and nephews like to swim around the pond, on a boogie boards and rafts, frequently exploring the shore and area in and around the proposed site. If the farm is placed there, they, too, will be forced to move further to center of the pond, putting them at increased risk. This is also true for kayakers and all other recreational users.

One more note...The applicant's statement that he has "...seen only occasional paddle craft " and has "...never seen anyone fishing or shell fishing" in the proposed site is, on its face, demonstrably FALSE, revealing on his part a willingness to bend the truth to suit his business goals. One wonders what other parts of his application suffer from similar myopia....

In sum, the proposed oyster/scallop farm will have a significant deleterious effect on the recreational use of Segar Cove and will create significant and potentially dangerous conflicts with existing boating, swimming, etc. I urge the CRMC to deny the application.

With kind regards and thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely,

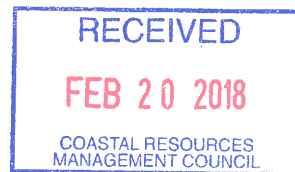
David Latham

David Latham
1915 8th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11215

and

2464 F Commodore Perry Highway
Matunuck, RI 02879

917-647-1792
davidclatham@gmail.com



January 23, 2018

Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 3
Wakefield, Rhode Island 02879-1900

Re: File # 2017-12- 086

To Whom This May Concern;

Our names are:

Kevin Martin Hunt

Christine S Hunt

We reside at:

98 Segar Court, Wakefield, RI 02879

February-April we can be reached at:

720 17th Avenue South, Naples, Florida 34102

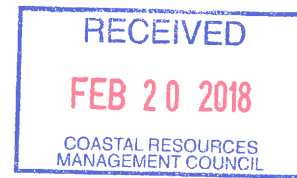
Email: kmhunt42@gmail.com

christinehunt53@gmail.com

Phone: 617-416-8409

- We are sending by certified mail an objection to the above referenced proposal and a request for a hearing. I strongly believe that the approval of this proposal will negatively impact the traditional recreational, fishing and shellfishing use of that section of Segar Cove and create safety and navigational issues for the many watercraft that frequent this area. Our home is very remote by land and I fear the an industrial area feet from our property could also create a security issue.

My wife Christine and I have resided at 98 Segar Court since 2002. I first fished and "clammed" on Potter Pond in 1957 with my father. I represent



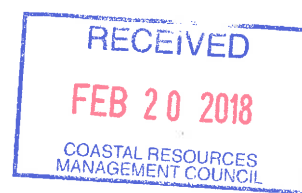
the third generation of Matunuck residents enjoying the Pond and now take great joy in sharing it with my children. We are fortunate to have a registered dock on the property, a registered 17' Key West motorboat, a kayak, paddle board and rowboat. The proposed commercial use changes and presents conflict to these continued uses.

Our property is a point of land on the eastern section of Segar Cove. Perry Raso's current oyster farm is directly across from our property to the south east. This proposed aquafarm will parallel the western side of our property. Based on the scale of the application map, though difficult to read, the proposed farm will hug over 600 feet of that side our property, as close as 10 feet from our shore and stretch well into the open cove.

CONCERNS AND DISCREPANCIES WITH THE APPLICATION

ITEM 3: "The 3 acre area of Potter Pond is removed from boat traffic, away from the navigational channel."

There are only 2 areas of the Pond that have the open width and depth to safely tube and water ski. Segar Cove is one of those places. There are a constant stream of power boats pulling skiers and tubers. They share the space with vulnerable kayakers, paddle boarders, sailers, canoers, jet skiers, fishermen, clammers, bird watchers and leisure craft who navigate those waters daily. It is already a tight squeeze and many hug the shore to safely avoid the traffic in the channel. It is important to note that because the equipment on the proposed farm will be above water, the large service barges will have to be on the western side of the farm toward the middle of the channel further restricting traffic and expanding the footprint of the farm. The proposed changes will dramatically alter the current Pond use and require small craft, kayaks, paddle boards, canoes etc, into the more active channel of the Cove. These use changes will represent a significant increase to the risk of human safety.



ITEM 6:

As stated above in Item 3, the proposed lease would restrict the traditional recreational use of Segar Cove. As well, the narrow mouth of the Cove already has considerable traffic from the 26 docks and twenty moorings within the Cove. Just around the point in Seaweed Cove there are 39 docks and numerous moorings that host watercraft that utilize Segar Cove. This increased industrial traffic of large service barges required to service the new lease will magnify the navigational hazard.

ITEM 7:

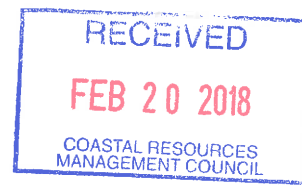
Residents should be provided with a study that shows that a 3 acre fixed farm on a tidal pond will not impede the flow of water and cleansing tides near the important mouth of Segar Cove. We the Hunt family would be particularly concerned with the riparian areas immediately adjacent to our land.

ITEM 10: "I have seen only an occasional paddle craft in the proposed lease..... I have never seen anyone fishing or shell fishing either commercially or recreationally in the proposed area."

As a resident since 2002, that simply is not true. Segar Cove is one of the most active and popular areas of the Pond. Fishing in the southern section of the proposed lease is particularly popular when the bass are running in the spring. At least 2 days a week we see people shellfishing in the proposed site, particularly in the northeast segment. One group uses air hoses to reach the deeper clams.

ITEM 11: Scenic impact and direct view of homeowners

The proposed site is in full view of my home and of that of many of my neighbors. Ironically, CRMC has granted my property 2 view corridors. Those corridors allow us to lower the level of the brush so we can enjoy the



views. Presently one of our corridors looks directly at Perry's oyster farm business. Our second corridor will overlook his new venture.

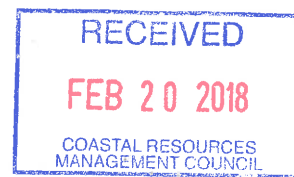
WILDLIFE

The shoreline and land adjacent to the proposed lease is unspoiled and home to a diverse population of wildlife. It is one of the few places we are aware of where one can view otters, mink, and red fox. As well this pristine peaceful oasis secures both a safe migrating and nesting area to great blue heron, great horned owls, hawks, humming birds, and egrets. At our request the DEM and National Grid erected a platform for Osprey that has been the home to a family of Osprey and five new chicks over the last two years. This nest is on our causeway, just feet from the proposed lease. Numerous boaters and kayaks travel to view the Osprey. We fear this new aquafarm with its industrial activity and noise will disrupt this rare ecosystem and prevent access of boaters to view the Osprey nest. The Council required in our assent to maintain a contiguous green buffer in this zone to enhance and encourage habitat. So we are troubled by the potential of a commercial use conflicting with the previous Council position and restrictions on our property.

ACCESS TO OUR PROPERTY

Access to our west shore is by boat only due to CRMC compliance regulations. We are prohibited from cutting heavy brush outside our view corridor and there is no existing grandfathered path to that area. To check our shoreline, check erosion, remove debris, i.e.: dock remnants, planks, plastic, etc., or simply to view our osprey nest, fish or paddle board, Perry's equipment, raised structures, platforms, ropes and workmen will block our ability to bring our boat to shore.

PEACEFUL ENJOYMENT OF OUR PROPERTY



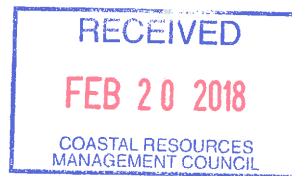
- We supported and did not oppose Perry's current oyster farm which is 200 yards from our property. We have watched it grow from a small underwater project that he serviced from a small craft with his dog to a 7 acre multi million dollar enterprise with raised visible acres of track, floating rafts and constant traffic manned 7 days a week. The constant music, shouting and colorful language travel over the water and have become part of our lives. The additional proposed three acre farm will be within feet of the other side of our property and will magnify all the issues stated above.

Unfortunately, Perry is not always available to supervise his crew. We have had issues with this in the past when their behavior has made both my wife and daughter uncomfortable. We complained to Perry at that time and to his credit, we have had few issues over the past several years. Upon viewing this proposal, my wife and I were concerned that a daily unsupervised crew so close to our remote home would create safety concerns for ourselves and our family. We believe that that the past behavior and comments could increase and further diminish our peaceful enjoyment and use of our property.

We are saddened to think of the loss of space, safety and enjoyment the implementation of this proposal will create. For all the families who enjoy and respect this special Pond, we request a hearing. After an objective hearing, the impact of the proposed operation will be revealed as adverse and inconsistent with the intentions of RI GL laws and the rules and regulations regarding the aquaculture industry. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Kevin Martin Hunt
Christine S Hunt



**95 Segar Court
Matunuck, RI 02879
C/o 12 Chestnut Street
Boston, MA 02108**

January 27, 2018

**Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver H. Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 3
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900**

File Number 2017-12-086, Raso Application, Segar Cove, Potter Pond

Dear Sirs/Madams:

Our names are:

Stephen Quigley

Alicia M Cooney

We reside at: 95 Segar Court, Matunuck, RI 02879

September-May we can be reached at:

12 Chestnut Street, Boston, MA 02108

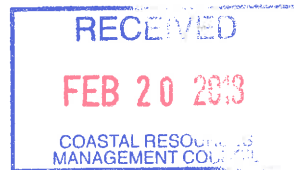
Email: Alicia@monumentgroup.com Cell phone 617-827-8895

Stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com Cell phone 671-372-6360

Winter Home Phone: 617-918-9857

We are sending by certified mail an objection to the above proposal and a request for a hearing. We strongly believe that the approval of this proposal will negatively impact the traditional recreational, fishing and shellfishing use of that section of Segar Cove and create safety and navigational issues for the many watercraft that frequent this area. We are also concerned with the effect of the proposed oyster farm on the wildlife in the specific area. Our other concern is that the specific view from our house and patio will be impaired, specifically in the view corridor which was determined for us by CMRC.

We are direct abutters of the proposed oyster farm site requested by Perry Raso of the Matunuck Oyster Bar. Our house is visible on the top right of the photo attached as part of the permit, directly to the north of the proposed oyster farm site. Our dock is just out of sight of the photograph, but in a larger photo it would be visible right at the top left of center of this photo perimeter. At the dock, in season, we have a 17' Boston Whaler, a paddle board and three kayaks. In addition, we use the dock for our 15' wooden Maine Dory equipped with sails, depending on the wind.



My husband, our two teenage sons, multiple guests and relatives rely on water sport activities on the pond as a main component of our enjoyment of our home. In fact, having resided summers since 1954 in Matunuck, we expressly purchased this property and built a new home at 95 Segar Court solely for its unique location and existing dock. Prior to the purchase of our current home with dock, we regularly launched our smaller row boats and sail boats at the end of Lake Avenue. Our family, and the extended Cooney family including my father and grandfather, has been regular recreational users of this section of Potter Pond for over 90 years. I have attached just a few photos taken with the last two years of our family and friends either on the exact section of the Pond under discussion or clearly having just been using the Pond. These represent only a few occasions when we have been using the pond, as we do not take photos of ourselves every time we recreate there.

TO SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS THE LEGAL CRITERIA AS DELINEATED FROM THE CRA APPLICATION REVIEW SHEET FOR THE PROPOSEAL, WE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

The specific conditions with which we take issue with in terms of whether they meet the CRMC legal criteria are as follows:

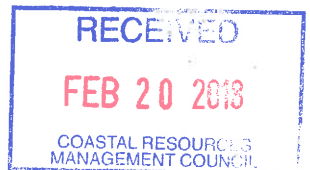
(5) Demonstrate that the alteration or activity will not result in significant impacts on the abundance and diversity of plant and animal life.

We disagree that this condition will be fulfilled, as there is extensive animal life that calls that area of the pond home, and that will be disrupted by the human activity associated with the harvesting of the oysters. If anything like the workers at Mr. Raso's other farm, the workers are out on the platform for lengthy periods of time, working, talking continuously and playing their music. The swans, osprey, minks and other semi-aquatic mammals do not do well with constant human interference.

(6) Demonstrate that the alteration will not unreasonably interfere with, impair, or significantly impact existing public access to, or use of, tidal waters and/or the shore.

We disagree that this condition will be fulfilled, as the location of the proposed oyster farm acreage does actually impact the access to the passageway to the larger pond for kayaks, paddleboards, and other non-motorized water vehicles. As a 65 year old kayaker, I need to hug the coast, passing directly over the proposed acreage, in order to avoid the motor boats going in circles with their children on skis, boards, and in tubes. Also we ask our paddle boarders to stay in the same area close to shore for the same safety reasons.

(10) Demonstrate that the alteration or activity will not result in significant conflicts with water-dependent uses and activities such as recreational boating, fishing, swimming, navigation, and ...



We disagree that this condition will be fulfilled and strongly disagree with Mr. Raso's impression that he has "seen only an occasional paddle craft in the proposed lease." On summer days, there is constant boating activity, shellfishing and fishing from early morning through sundown, and on weekends, sometimes later. Boating during the evening will be extremely unsafe, particularly if boaters are visitors and are not aware there is a restricted area. Mr. Raso notes that there are few docks in the area. He is correct, but the boating activity is a combination of those of us with docks, those with moorings and docks on the southern end of the pond abutting Washington St, Lake Ave, Park Ave, Atlantic Avenue as well as the Gardiner Island/Prospect area. In addition, while out boating ourselves, we see any number of visiting boaters and shellfishers that arrive from Salt Pond under Succotash Road in order to enjoy our area. One of the most frequent areas for shellfishing is almost exactly at the lower right (Southeast) corner of Mr. Raso's proposed site. The shellfishers seem to come in small motor boats or rafts from other areas of the pond, land their boats at the edge of the pond, and spend multiple hours shellfishing.

(11) Demonstrate that measures have been taken to minimize any adverse scenic impact.

We disagree that this condition will be fulfilled, as our view corridor, which was granted to us by CRMC, looks directly out at the proposed site. Item (11) notes that "the floating gear will be positioned nearest to the coast and out of direct view of any homeowner on the pond." That would be practically impossible given that from our backyard, where our patio and grill are, we can see the entire site. We are happy to send photos to show this visually

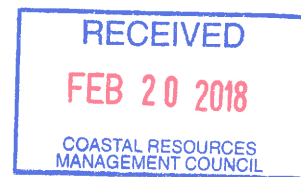
Given our major concerns as to whether Mr. Raso's proposal 2017-12-086 meets the legal requirements for CRMC's granting of his application to create and maintain a three acre farm at the noted location in Potter Pond, we request a hearing to consider our objections. We look forward to hearing a response from our protest, at our email addresses, mailing addresses, and/or phone numbers noted above.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Stephen Quigley

Alicia M Cooney



Before the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council.

Dear Members of the Coastal Resource Management Council,

I am writing regarding CRMC File Number 2017-12-086 Application of Perry Raso 629 Succotash Road , Wakefield RI, 02879. (Potter's Pond - Segar Cove location)

Since growing up on Great Salt Pond, I have kayaked in both Segar Cove. Great Salt Pond has limited recreational use due to the oyster farms that currently exist within the 5% guidelines. Low profile recreational craft do not enter these areas for there is often large aluminum craft servicing the farm. Segar Cove, and in particular the narrow scope of Potter's Pond make it ideal for kayaking.

It is my understanding from the aquaculture coordinator that it is not number of objections to a pending lease that affect its implementation, but rather the substance of the claim. Here is the objection - *The objection is tied to **Objections: Reference 1.1.4 Category B - G. Substantive Objections (formerly 110.3) c. 5 "scenic and/or recreation values.***

If CRMC questions the locations use during the months of the lease, perhaps a moratorium on this location occur and data collected with "ground truth" about its recreational value.

Finally, this is not a case of NIMBYism - for I live in Saunderstown and travel to "put in" on the public access points that are lesser known.

My daughter thanks you for properly managing this unique, delicate and special site.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michaela Onosko".

Michaela Onosko
15 Baneberry Trail
Saunderstown, RI
02874
401-413-3336

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:07 AM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Potter Pond Shellfishing



-----Original Message-----

From: Philip Morton [<mailto:phil-morton@comcast.net>]
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 6:18 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Potter Pond Shellfishing

Dave,

My wife and I have owned a home/cottage on Potter Pond in SK for the past six years and have just recently learned about the new aquaculture license request by the owner of Matunuck Oyster Bar. Although we are fans of aquaculture and the restaurant itself we are very opposed to Perry Raso or anyone else acquiring more of the pond for commercial farming. The beauty of Potter Pond has always been enhanced by how serene and un-spoiled it is.

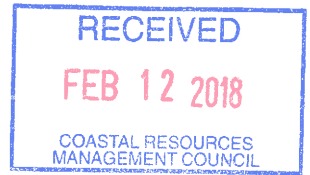
Having an oyster farm in Potter Pond has increased year-round boat traffic significantly and taken precious acreage of nature away from all of us. I am also an active recreational fisherman on Potter Pond mainly from my kayak and it is very disturbing to lose more of our incredible fishing area intended for all to use to the benefit of only a few.

Please do not support this license application.

Phil & Nancy Morton
64 Windswept Drive
Champlin's Cove=

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 9:08 AM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Raso app on Potters Cove



From: dbow2458 [<mailto:dbow2458@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 9:44 AM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Raso app on Potters Cove

We are property owners at 8 Sarasota Ave, Narragansett, RI (Briggs Farm.) We would like to express our disapproval of granting Mr Raso more space for his aquaculture. Not only is this setup unsightly, but the residents are losing their space and freedom of these waters to the sole benefit of Mr. Raso. Enough is enough. While we like and respect him and his work ethic, we feel if we don't express our disapproval of granting Mr Raso more space for his aquaculture, we would ne remiss. We are boaters and fishing enthusiasts, and want to be able to enjoy the waters in our neighborhood.

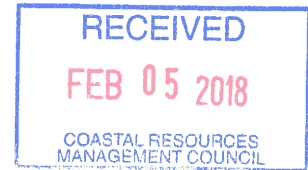
Thank you for your consideration.

James and Donna Bowen

Sent from my Sprint Samsung Galaxy S7.

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 7:39 AM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Lease application # 2017-12-086



From: cdillon@ricentral.com [<mailto:cdillon@ricentral.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 3:52 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Lease application # 2017-12-086

Mr. Beutel,

I am opposed to a shellfish farm in Segar cove in Potters pond, SK, RI. I am concerned about limiting recreational access if the farm is permitted. I am a resident of Narragansett.

Thank you,

Chris Dillon

Christopher Dillon
Advertising Consultant
cdillon@ricentral.com
Southern Rhode island Newspapers
Tel 401-9744 ext 115
Cell 401-479-9154

Brittany Spurlock

From: cdillon@ricentral.com
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:42 AM
To: 'Brittany Spurlock'
Subject: RE: Raso Application

Christopher Dillon
110 Avice St, Narragansett RI
02882

From: Brittany Spurlock [<mailto:bspurlock@crmc.ri.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 12:04 PM
To: cdillon@ricentral.com
Subject: Raso Application

Dear Chris,

We are in receipt of your response to CRMC Public Notice for Perry Raso. If you would like to be informed of future meetings / hearings, please reply with your USPS mailing address. Thank you!

Brittany Spurlock

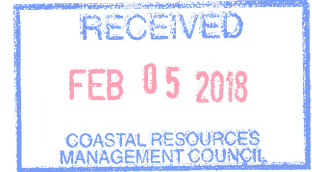
Data Entry
Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116
Wakefield, RI 02879
(401)783-3370



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Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 2:46 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Application for additional lease of land on Potters Pond



From: Scote16 [<mailto:scote16@verizon.net>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 6:20 PM
To: Council; Dbeutel
Subject: Application for additional lease of land on Potters Pond

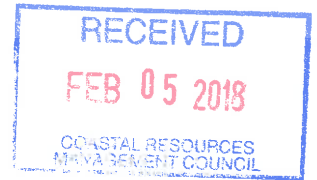
Hello,

As a resident with a home on Potters Pond I am writing to voice my opposition to Perry Raso's application to lease an additional area of Potters Pond. As a resident with a boat who regularly uses this Pond I am greatly concerned this will reduce my right and ability to fully enjoy my own property and access to the pond. I am asking that you reject this application in whole.

Thank you,
Scott M Cote
78 Windswept Drive
Wakefield, RI 02879
(401) 487-5975

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 2:46 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Segar Cove permit



-----Original Message-----

From: andrew forber [<mailto:andrew.forber@icloud.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 4:04 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Segar Cove permit

I am strongly against any move to allow the closing of more areas of Potters Pond private commercial use!

I live in Snug Harbor, and spend most day on Potter Pond, fishing, clamming, and swimming.

There has to be a limit of public natural resources give to one person at the expense of the surrounding community.

Thank you,
Andrew Forber
87 Hartford Ave
Wakefield Ri 02879

Brittany Spurlock

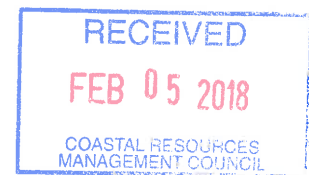
From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 2:47 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Potters pond

-----Original Message-----

From: Renee [<mailto:scoobypal@cox.net>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 3:50 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Potters pond

I oppose the application due to it reducing my access to the pond. I am requesting that they rejects the application in full.

Thank you, Renee & Frank Parente
76 Windswept Dr.
Wakefield , RI
Sent from my iPhone



Brittany Spurlock

From: cstaff1 <cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 8:35 AM
To: Brittany; David Beutel
Subject: FW: Segar Pond File Number 2017-12- 086 Raso Application

-----Original Message-----

From: Giguere [<mailto:giguere@cox.net>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 4:01 PM
To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Segar Pond File Number 2017-12- 086 Raso Application

Good Afternoon,

This letter is in reference to the application submitted by Perry Raso to limit recreational use of Sugar Cove/Potter Pond. While we are very pleased the Matunuck Oyster Bar has thrived as a restaurant in our area, the notion of limiting the use of Potter Pond and more specifically to my family, Sager Cove, is not something we can support. We live at the end of Lake Avenue and have used the pond for rowing and water skiing our entire lives. With each summer that passes, we have noticed more and more people, including full families, getting wonderful enjoyment out of the pond. Boats of all types, kayaks, simple row boats for young kids, paddle boards and all types of flotation devices are used through out the entire summer and into the fall until it is simply too cold to do so. We have always looked forward to our grandchildren using the pond the way we always did and the application to make the pond of commercial use does not fit into that.

In short, Segar Cove should remain available to the surrounding community for recreational use rather than turn it into a commercial boon for one individual's business.

We request a hearing on this and notification if one is scheduled so we can be present.

Thank you and please feel free to reach out.

Constance and Jeffrey Giguere
82 Keene Street
Providence, RI 02906
401-453-4653

Sumer residence, 188 Lake Avenue, Matunuck, RI 02879

This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.
<http://www.avg.com>

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 2:47 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: P Raso and Potters Pond

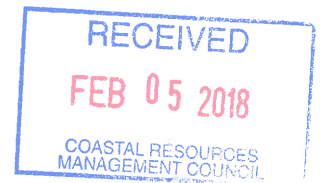
From: Tony Sousa [<mailto:anthony.h.sousa@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 3:33 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: P Raso and Potters Pond

We write in support of Mr. Raso's efforts. Please consider: who is doing more to help our environment, the boaters leaking oil and gas all over Potter's Pond or Mr. Raso and his oysters? Don't be fooled by those who have written you with their newly-discovered concern for the environment. They just selfishly want more of the pond for their polluting activities.

Mr. Raso has been a wonderful ambassador for South County. His dedication to doing the right thing for Rhode Island is obvious in every project he develops.

Thank you for your time, Mr. Beutel.

Sincerely,
Anthony Sousa
Katherine Sousa



Brittany Spurlock

From: Tony Sousa <anthony.h.sousa@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 4:03 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: Re: Raso Application

19 Windward Road
Wakefield, RI 02879

On Monday, February 5, 2018, Brittany Spurlock <bspurlock@crmc.ri.gov> wrote:

Dear Anthony,

We are in receipt of your response to CRMC Public Notice for Perry Raso. If you would like to be informed of future meetings / hearings, please reply with your USPS mailing address. Thank you!

Brittany Spurlock

Data Entry

Coastal Resources Management Council

Oliver Stedman Government Center

4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 116

Wakefield, RI 02879

(401)783-3370



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Waiting For
Address

2017-12-086

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 8:02 AM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Seger Cove Shellfish Farm

From: Richard Duggan [<mailto:rduggan45@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 8:32 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Seger Cove Shellfish Farm

Dear Dave Beutel,

We have known Perry Raso since he attended Matunuck Elementary School with our children. His love and knowledge of our environment and pond's ecosystem has grown and developed to a very high level.

My wife, Linda, and I have been residents of Matunuck since 1975 and moved to Matunuck Point in 1984. Our family has grown up on Potters Pond. Our children would swim, fish and go crabbing in the pond. Kayaking and boating enabled the entire family to explore and enjoy the waters of Potters Pond.

The area of Seger Cove that is being proposed as a site for a shellfishing farm was and is seldom utilized for recreational activities. This project will improve water quality and not interfere with any activities in the three acre location.

We highly support the creation of a shellfishing farm in Seger Cove.

Thank you for your time and efforts in this matter,

Linda and Richard Duggan

Brittany Spurlock

From: Dave Beutel <dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2018 12:48 PM
To: Brittany Spurlock
Subject: FW: Mr Perry Raso's Shellfish lease in Segar Cove

From: Tom Cerio [<mailto:tomcerio@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2018 12:29 PM
To: dbeutel@crmc.ri.gov
Subject: Mr Perry Raso's Shellfish lease in Segar Cove

Mr. Beutel & Members of the Waterfront Advisory Commission,

As a home owner on Potter Pond I whole heartedly support Mr. Razo's application for the shellfish lease in Segar Cove. The success Perry has had, for more than a decade, in Oyster cultivation on Potters Pond speaks for itself. He now harvests over a million oysters annually and the impact on the Pond is all positive from a water purification and biodiversity point of view. His success comes from a lifetime of shellfishing RI waters and an excellent education in aquaculture at URI. I kayak often around his oyster farm and Segar Cove and find his team always polite, quiet as well as hard working. Personally I enjoy watching his boats go by my home in the morning and evening. It's exciting to think that not only will the neighborhood enjoy locally grown oysters but now scallops as well. The shellfish hatchery Perry is working on only adds to the excitement and rounds out his vision of farm to table.

As a family we have watched Perry take the Matunuck Oyster Bar from a vacant restaurant to a nationally known destination that employs 200 people. His vision of farm to table from his organic garden, at the head of the Pond and his oyster farm attracts thousands annually. We live in walking distance to his restaurant and although busy in the summer we feel safe biking and walking to the beach because of the way he manages traffic and parking. Perry has been a very thoughtful neighbor in that he is extremely conscientious, always gracious, very considerate of the environment, unbelievably hard working and a hands on business owner.

Supporting successful and responsible business owners in the field of agriculture like Mr. Raso is vital to the health of our society as well as the financial health of the State of Rhode Island.

Sincerely
Tom Cerio
95 Old Succotash Rd
Wakefield, RI 02879
917-678-3633

