

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



REGARDING CRMC File Number 2017-12-086
Application from Perry Raso, 629 Succotash Road, Wakefield, RI 02879
Project location Potter Pond, South Kingstown, RI

Dear Sirs or Madams,

I wish to request a hearing on the above CRMC File Number 2017-12-086.

My name is Robert F. Hefner

Email address is robhefner@hotmail.com

Phone number 401 332 9931

Mailing addresses: October 1 May 31 8080 Tiger Lily Drive, Naples, FL 34113

June 1 to Sept 30 231 Sycamore Lane, South Kingstown, RI 02879

I own and reside at 231 Sycamore Lane, South Kingstown, RI 02879. My property abuts Potters Pond on a cove often referred to as Segar Cove. We have a registered dock on the property and a RI registered 21 foot Hurricane boat powered with a 150 Yamaha outboard which we use daily on Segar Cove during the summer. We also have two kayaks, one row boat and two jet skis which we also use on the Segar Cove.

Some of my concerns...

Mr. Raso's answers to items 3, 6 and 10 are not true.

I know his answers are untrue because I live on Segar Cove with complete view of the proposed lease site specified within the above file number and I continually observe the number and frequency of power boating, swimming, fishing, clamming, water skiing, power boat pulled tubing, paddle boards, kayaks, sail boards, small sail boats and row boats that ply all the areas of Segar Cove.

Specifically.....Item 3. Mr Raso answered, the lease area is "removed from boat traffic". While it may be north of what he calls a "navigation channel" (I know of no "navigation channel" so I guess he means the channel opening from Segar Cove to the other portions of Potter's Pond) the area most certainly is NOT REMOVED FROM BOAT TRAFFIC. I use it all the time as do the kayaks, fishermen, sail boats, etc listed above.

Boat traffic flows thru the proposed lease area all the time ESPECIALLY for water skiers and younger children being pulled in tubes by powered boats. Additional users come from boats on all the docks on



Segar and Potters not just the three docks mentioned in the north part of Segar as well as from boat owners who lease moorings from the town of South Kingstown in the South portion of Segar Cove as well as the mooring field in Middle Cove. (I have contacted the SK Harbor Master Michael Stach to get the total number of leased moorings. His email is harbormaster@skcc.com and phone number is 401 641 0620 , perhaps he can help you with the question about recreational usage on Segar). All the powered boats from the two SK town moorings fields use Segar Cove. All the dock owners in Middle cove and Deep Cove, They use Segar Cove. Two Town of South Kingstown roads (Lake Ave and Park Ave) terminate on to Segar Cove. Residents of those streets and all the surrounding streets store canoes, kayaks ,etc etc on the town's right of way and they use Segar Cove all summer long.

Item 6 “demonstrate the alteration will not unreasonable interfere with, impair or significantly impacting public ...use of the tidal waters...”

Mr Raso again states it is removed from boat traffic. This is in fact another mistruth. Boats of all kinds, as well as clam diggers, kayaks etc etc (see above for various recreational users) utilize the proposed area of the lease. Mr. Raso's comment about the narrowness of the lease not causing issues or problems is very much incorrect.

IN FACT NARROWNESS is indeed one of the major issues with this lease. This lease , while it may be narrow in MR Raso's mind) will dramatically narrow Segar Cove's safe turning radius for power boats, and place water skiers and tubers into dangerous contact with his floating cages, lines, ropes, buoys, as well as the docks on the west side of Segar Cove. Additionally, it moves non powered sailing, paddling, rowing swimming activity to the middle of the Cove putting them more in harms way of powered boats. If this lease is granted it will only be a matter of time before a serious to fatal boating accident occurs. This very area of Segar is currently the safest area and perhaps the only area, for such powered boat turns. To diminish the width of this area by granting this lease would be dangerous to the point of negligence.

See below for my estimates of how the lease will dramatically reduce the width of Segar and thus cause safety issues for recreational users.

Item 10. “demonstrate.....will not result in significant conflicts with water-dependent uses and activities such as recreational boating, fishing, swimming, navigation...”

Mr Raso's answer is stunningly false. His reply “I have lived and worked on the pond continuously for the last 19 years and over those years I have seen only a occasional paddle craft in the proposed lease...I have never seen anyone fishing or shell fishing ...in the proposed area”.

This is a terrible untrue and patently false. That area is teeming with all of the activities Item 10 lists as potential conflicts and the lease will in fact not only make conflicts but will make Segar Cove a dangerous area for recreational users. Most, if not all, property owners or recreational users of Segar will negate Mr Raso's answer. One person's recollection of the volume of traffic should certainly not be taken at face value. Property owners on Potter's pond, as well as mooring leaser owners, and recreational boaters disagree with Mr Raso's recollection.

I know Mr. Raso and have had respect for him up until now, however, his answer to this question is so incorrect that I feel that all his other answers to the questions in the application are now questionable as to their accuracy.

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MANAGEMENT

The proposed area of the lease is one of the few areas on Segar where a power boat pulling a skier or tuber can safely make a turn under power and protect the skier or tuber from coming too close to the shore and the docks in the area. The leased area will greatly diminish the width of Segar and make any power boat turn much more dangerous. It will also force unpowered craft to the middle of the Cove putting them more in harms way of powered craft. The fact that the application indicates a dock is located 350 feet from the edge of the lease should send up a red flag on the danger this lease would present to power boats pulling tubers or skiers.

In closing, this lease should not be granted in the area of Segar Cove so designated within the FILE number above. Mr. Raso's answers to items 3, 6 and 10 are not true. Boating and all other recreational usage in the proposed lease is heavy and frequent. Narrowing Segar Cove at this point will create danger and hazardous conditions for recreational users.

If a CRMC decision on the volume of recreational usage and the dangerous conditions that may occur because of the narrowing of Segar Cove, how will you determine whether it is heavy as I and numerous others say, or non-existent as Mr Raso states? How will CRMC come to its decision as to who is correct? In the absence of anything other than "he said, I said" shouldn't we table this application and have CRMC undertake a study during May thru Sept of 2018 on activity levels and then make the decision. The property owners and recreational users of Segar Cove certainly deserve at least a decision based upon actual usage facts.

Sincerely



Robert F. Hefner

Bob.hefner@comcast.com 401 332 9931 231 Sycamore Lane, SKingtown, RI

8080 Tiger Lily Drive, Naples FL 34113 (October 1 to May 31)

P.S I spoke by telephone today with Michael Stach Harbor Master South Kingstown, 401 641 0620

thompsonstonkingtown.org. Mr Stach told me that Mr. Raso's replies to items 3,6 10 are not accurate and that there is a large amount of boating traffic in the proposed area. As a non voting member of the Water Front Commission he has shared that info with the Commission and that info should appear in the minutes of the FEB 1 2018 Commission meeting. Please contact Mr. Stach to confirm the inaccuracy of Mr. Raso's replies concerning recreational boating in the proposed lease area.

I am attempting to calculate the width of Segar Cove, however, I am having difficulty with the scale shown on the maps in the filing. Shouldn't scale be clearly noted on these supporting documents? I note that Mr Raso conveniently omits the West Coast line of Segar cove on his larger depiction of the lease field which would more clearly show the narrowing of the Cove and allow for a more accurate calculation. I also question if the pencil drawn lease area identified with with a pencil drawn arrow on the

map displaying all of Potter's pond is correct in scale. (Does not CRMC require EXACT survey and map information on all documents submitted with an application, especially when public safety is impacted).

However assuming Segar Cove is 1,000 feet wide at the point of the proposed lease I subtract 320 feet from that 1,000 feet (i.e. lease starts 45 feet from east shore, is 250 feet wide and uses a barge that is anchored on the west edge of the lease that is 25 feet wide. That would leave 680 feet remaining. However, there may be much less since the application states that there are two docks, one on the east side and one of the west side that are 150 yards from the end of the lease. That would narrow the Cove to 350 feet in width.

I am attempting to find the US Coast Guard or the appropriate agency that provides guidelines on safe distances water skiers and tubers should stay away from docks and other obstacles such as those the proposed lease would introduce to Segar Cove. (i.e lines, crates, buoys, submerged cables, ropes, floating apparatus etc). One book says skiers should be 100 feet away from docks / obstacles and another says 150 feet. If 100 feet is accurate a powered boat pulling a skier or tuber would have only 150 feet to make a safe turn, at 150 foot safe distance from lease area to dock, a boat would have 50 feet to turn. Assuming the above estimates are correct this lease would effectively eliminate recreational skiing and tubing in Segar Cove and make non power boat usage much more dangerous as they are forced into a more ~~narrower area with the powered boats.~~

I am sure someone at CRMC can make the above calculation about reduction in turning radius for powered boats with skiers or tubers as well as provide guidelines for how far a skier should maintain a distance from hazards such as docks, rocks, shore area, and the ropes, floating cages, cables work barges associated with an Oyster Farm.



TO CRMC

1/24/18

Object to Raso App. 247-12-086 and request hearing

ZENAS W BLISSIE 135 DON AVE RUMFORD RI 02916

ZWBII@aol.com 401 434 9216

As a summer resident - 5/6 mos - for 90 yrs and property owner (same location) for over 35 yr., object on the following points

Major impact on use and access to entire area for shellfishing (best loc on pond) fishing (one of best on pond) boating esp. all types of boat towed sports and sailing as the cove is a key and critical turning area.

It is a hazard to navigation, in an already crowded area, for passage in and out of the pond, N/S in the pond and exit from the N end of Pond. It is a major hazard to navigation for night usage of the pond and passage even with lights and markers.

It is a total obstruction to the safety of a lee shore in case of a disabled boat or person in the water because the usual winds are southerly onto the cove. I know this from experience.

It will limit severely sailing small boats as this is a critical, key track from the N to S end of Pond.

This is one of the few remaining areas in the entire system where sailing is possible. It is usually down wind S to N and a beat N to S where open water is needed.

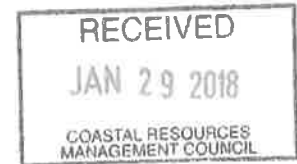
Frequent and variable use of area is very likely to drive out any Osprey from the nest. Osprey stay because they are there when we are.

It is a critical shelter for waterfowl as it protects for 180° N-E-S

It is a bad location for at least all the above

Z W Bliss





Coastal Resources Management Council

Oliver Stedman Government Center

4808 Tower Hill Road, Suite 3

Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

REGARDING CRMC File Number 2017-12-086

Application from Perry Raso, 629 Succotash Road, Wakefield, RI 02879

Project location Potter Pond, South Kingstown, RI

Dear Sirs or Madams,

I wish to request a hearing on the above CRMC File Number 2017-12-086.

My name is William V. Irons

My email address is: wirons39@cox.net

Phone number (401) 480-8880

Mailing addresses: 51 Jay St. Rumford, RI 02916

I own the property at 150 Prospect Rd, South Kingstown, RI 02879. My property sits on Segar Cove, I have owned this property since July 1, 1995. We have a registered dock on the property and a RI registered 18 Four Winns boat with a 150HP outboard which we use on a regular basis in the months of June through September on Segar Cove for water skiing, tubing and fishing and clamming. We also have two kayaks which are used regularly on these waters. While involved in these uses it in very often the case that others are on the Cove at the same time involved in the same activity and operating space is very limited. The operator and crew have to be extremely attentive to avoid a collision, the cove is not very large for all of these activities that occur simultaneously on many days.

While I recognize Mr. Raso's right to make this application I am somewhat surprised and honestly disappointed he has. To my knowledge our community in Wakefield has not objected to his initial application and subsequent expansion of his present operation in Potters Pond for commercial purposes in an area that does not disrupt other's enjoyment of these waters from their historical uses.

Many of us have been most supportive of his wonderful restaurant on Succotash Rd and I personally have referred visitors to my home to the facility. He is a unique individual in his development of the aquaculture industry in our state for which he is to be commended. Anyone who has seen him at his place of business readily realizes his outstanding work ethic and humble, pleasant personality.

All of this background is necessary to explain why I am disappointed about this application. This proposed Oyster Farm would essential eliminate much of the recreational activity that has been enjoyed by thousands of Rhode Islanders and visitors to our State since the time Matunuck evolved as a summer colony. I use this cove with my grandchildren to water ski,tube and fish and this proposed oyster farm



location would severely impair much the water activities that take place in the restricted space of the cove.

With regard to Items (3) and (10) in the application I am in total disagreement with a number of assertions of Mr Raso concerning his responses to the site being “removed from boat traffic”.

When one is using the cove for water skiing the natural swing of the skier from the pulling boat crosses directly over the area where the site of the farm is to be located .Due to the limited size of the cove this path is necessary. Also boaters entering the cove from the east, do to ongoing activity occurring regularly, drive to the north of the inlet again going directly over the site of the proposed farm. Kayakers and small sail boats cross the area on a regular basis when water skiing or tubing is occurring in the cove and if this farm were existing they would be prevented from using the cove simultaneously with water skiers.. To assert that this site “is removed from boat traffic “is either a misleading representation by the applicant of what occurs daily in the cove or ignorance of the daytime activities on this body of water.

Mr. Raso also indicates that he has “seen only occasional paddle craft in the proposed lease area” and while that may be his experience which I find hard to understand after 19 years of traveling this body of water that statement is factually totally untrue. One would only have to spend a day in the summer months to see small speed boats constantly pulling skiers and tubers in exactly the area of the proposed lease as well as jet skiers and sail boats. I’ve lived on this pond for 22 summers and I enjoyably watch all this activity from the deck of my home.

The assertion that “ I have never seen anyone fishing or shellfishing either commercially or recreationally in the proposed area” may have been the applicant’s experience , but again a factually untrue statement. Commercial diggers are always in the pond and in all locations and fishing occurs throughout the area at different times of the day. Because Mr Raso claims to have not seen these activities does not mean they have not occurred. As I’ve mention my deck has a full view of the area in question and I am at my home throughout the daytime on many days in the summer months and I do see these activities.

In Item 6 with regard to “demonstrate the alteration will not unreasonable interfere with, impair or significantly impacting EXISTING public access to or USE of the tidal waters...” I have the following comments regarding my disagreement with the applicant.

This existing historical public use of this body of water is recreational boating, kayaking, sailing, jet skiing, clamming and other similar summertime activities. Using measurements of 150 yards in one direction and 250 yards in another totally ignores the reality of the activity that occurs in this cove as boats swing about to pull their skiers or tubers , kayakers and sail boats ply the cove and avoid courses of collision with other activity ongoing. All the docks noted in Mr. Raso’s response are the historical limiting items to the navigation on the cove presently tightening the navigational process for recreational activities.. The addition of the proposed farm would make it virtually a constant danger to continue these historical activities on Segar Cove.

In Item 11 with regard to “demonstrate that measures have been taken to minimize any adverse scenic impact “ I have the following comment. How does the applicant intend to eliminate the view of the activity of the commercial workers maintaining the farm. The existing operating location on Potters Pond gives an indication of the experience of this farming activity. It is a significant distance from the nearest residence but this proposed facility will be directly under an existing home and in direct close view of



many homes on the cove and the employee work process of this proposed facility will be within earshot of these homes. Mr. Raso's response to the question is hard to understand that the farm " will not be in direct view of any homeowner on the pond " and not supported by the reality of the exiting farm on Potters Pond which is in direct view of all who pass and the homes on the shore albeit at some significant distance unlike the proposed farm.

In conclusion, it is my belief that the decision before CRMC at this time with regard to this application is shall the existing historical activity in Segar Cove that is and has been enjoyed by many of our citizens and guests in our state from the beginning of time in this area as a summer resort be abandoned to allow the expansion of an existing commercial activity, to provide more product to its restaurant . This activity is not necessary to provide success or profitability to this enterprise as will be readily obvious with one visit to the location and the waiting lines to be seated. I submit the proper decision is to deny this application and advise the applicant to find other locations in the ponds along our southern shore line that do not take away others' rights and enjoyments The citizens that inhabit the homes that line Segar Cove pay significant property taxes because of their shore front location and they do not deserve to have a commercial operation at their shoreline.

I appreciate and respect that public bodies such as the CRMC are often charged with arbitrating between the citizen's rights and business rights . I would submit that on this instant matter the scales tip decidedly in favor of the objector citizens since the applicant business has had significant prior approvals by this body to operate his farming operation on the Potter Pond body of waters. With all the options on the South County waterfront the committee need not take other's rights and enjoyment.

I look forward to appearing before the Council and appreciate the time and effort the CRMC and its members devote to protecting the environment of our State !

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William V. Irons".

William V. Irons

William G. Leddy
181 Washington Street
South Kingstown, RI 02879
(401) 256-7493
Bill.Leddy@Gmail.com

30 January 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: Application 2017-12-086

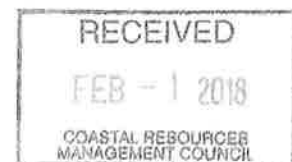
Councilmembers,

As a resident of the Segar Cove area of Potter Pond I must oppose this 3-acre aquaculture farm application and request a hearing to voice the following concerns:

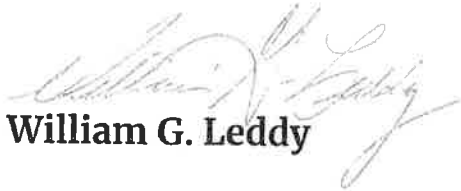
“...the alteration will not unreasonably interfere with, impair, or significantly impact existing public access to, or use of, tidal waters and/or the shore.

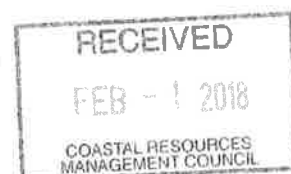
...the alteration or activity will not result in significant conflicts with water-dependent uses and activities such as recreational boating, fishing, swimming, navigation, and commerce.”

I maintain a vessel and mooring in Segar Cove for the specific purposes of recreating and shellfishing in Segar Cove. Though expansive in surface area, very little of Potter Pond is “navigable” for vessels that draw more than 2 feet of water. The area of the requested lease is in one of only two areas in the entire pond where I can recreationally waterski with friends and family members as I have done so for over forty years. I also regularly paddleboard and kayak in the same area. Additionally, I routinely shellfish for my own sustenance along that eastern shore of Segar Cove and do not wish to see access limited by aquaculture.



As impressed as I am by Mr. Raso's success in the Aquaculture industry I feel the balance of life on the pond will be negatively impacted for many Rhode Islanders by allowing a lease in the requested area.


William G. Leddy



Robert & Susan Appleby
515 East 89th Street, #1HJ
New York, NY 10128



January 31, 2018

By FedEx and Email

David Beutel
Aquaculture Coordinator
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 Number 2017-12-086, Raso Application, Segar Cove, Potter Pond

Dear Mr. Beutel:

We own a waterfront home on Potter Pond, 15 Howard Circle, where we reside during the summer months and as many weekends as possible during the remainder of the year. Although we purchased this particular home in May 2017, we have vacationed on Potter Pond for decades. Susan has been coming to Potter Pond since she was an infant; her family owns another property on Potter Pond and has done so since the 1950s. Our home is on the western shore of Segar Cove opposite the site of the aquaculture farm proposed in the above application. Because the proposed farm would deprive the public of long-established recreational use of Segar Cove, we oppose this application and request a public hearing.

Segar Cove is a popular area of Potter Pond for recreational boating, including motorboating, kayaking, paddleboarding, and sailing. Motorboats and personal watercraft enter the cove from all areas of Potter Pond to waterski, wakeboard, and tube. The cove is one of only two areas on Potter Pond having sufficiently deep water for these activities, the other being the extreme northern end of the Pond. It is a rare moment on a summer afternoon when there is no waterskier or tuber in the water. We too enjoy boating on Segar Cove. Our property has a dock at which we keep a 19' deck boat for waterskiing and tubing and we have two kayaks that we use frequently throughout the cove.

Mr. Raso's application is required to demonstrate that the proposed aquaculture farm "will not unreasonably interfere with, impair, or significantly impact existing public access to, or use of, tidal waters and/or the shore" and "will not result in significant conflicts with water-dependent uses and activities such as recreational boating, fishing, swimming, navigation, and commerce." Coastal Resources Management Program, § 1.3.1.A (formerly § 300.1). But the farm, as proposed, will significantly curtail or eliminate at least some forms of recreational boating in

Segar Cove, especially motorboating, waterskiing, wakeboarding, and tubing. The "Operation Plan and Project description" in Mr. Raso's application indicates that proposed farm will be 20 to 45 feet from the eastern shore of Segar Cove and that the farm itself will have a width of 215 feet. The farm will therefore extend 235 to 260 feet from the eastern shore. For waterskiing, wakeboarding, and tubing, Rhode Island mandates that a "reasonable distance from other vessels, people, and property must be maintained." Handbook of Rhode Island Boating Laws and Responsibilities, p. 72. Other states that have attempted to quantify such a distance have chosen 100, 150, or as much as 200 feet. <http://www.uscgboating.org/regulations/state-boating-laws-details.php?id=18&title=%5B4.2%5DWater%20Skiing>. A motorboat or personal watercraft desiring to maintain a 200 foot distance from the proposed farm would need to avoid an area extending 435 to 460 feet from the eastern shore. Given that the farm will vertically extend 620 feet, such an area constitutes a substantial portion of the northern part of Segar Cove. Exh. A. Boats servicing the farm may present additional obstacles. Confining recreational activities solely to the western half of the cove is not practicable given that shallower water extends a greater distance from the western shore, nor can these activities move to the southern portion of the cove as it is narrower and a mooring field is located there. Therefore, the aquaculture farm as proposed will significantly conflict with existing recreational public uses of Segar Cove.

We enjoy Mr. Raso's Matunuck Oyster Bar and the Matunuck oysters that he farms in Potter Pond. We support Mr. Raso's existing aquaculture efforts and are not categorically opposed to reasonable expansion of those efforts if an appropriate site could be found. Segar Cove, however, is not such a site. It is one of only two primary locations for recreational boating in Potter Pond and has been for decades. We do not believe that the CRMC should permit the public's long-standing collective enjoyment of this cove to be curtailed or eliminated in favor of the private business interests of a single individual. For this reason, we object to proposed aquaculture farm described in the above application.

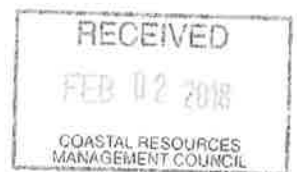
Very truly yours,



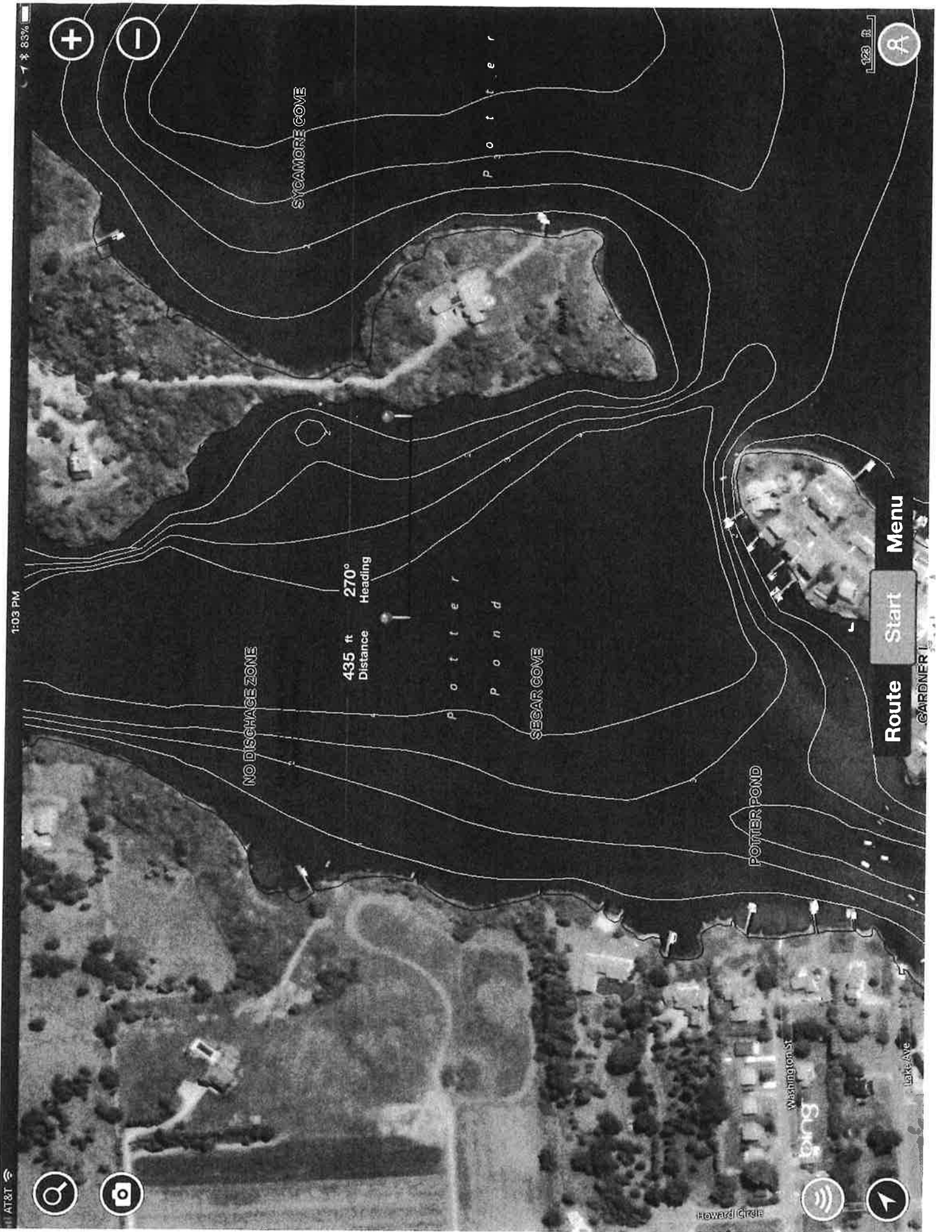
Robert A. Appleby
robert.appleby.ny@gmail.com
(917) 865-4018



Susan B. Appleby
susan.appleby.ny@gmail.com
(646) 678-1091



Attachment



AT&T

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Route Start Menu

NO DISCHARGE ZONE

SYCAMORE COVE

435 ft
Distance

270°
Heading

POTTER
POND

SEGAR COVE

POTTER POND

POTTER

Howard Circle

Washington St

Long

Lake Ave

GARDNER

From: todd corayer <tcorayer@fishwrapwriter.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 25, 2018 6:41 AM
To: Phil Capaldi
Cc: Dave Beutel; lisa.roccabello@dem.ri.gov; council@crmc.ri.gov; cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov; dem.marinefisheries@dem.ri.gov; jboyd@crmc.ri.gov; Maguire Rayna (DEM); Steve Medeiros; mgreene@clf.org; e-info@clf.org; Janet Coit; RISAA Kayak Committee; Salt Ponds Coalition; Mike Krul; Philip Shea; David Pollack; Julie A. Carroccia; Virginia Lee; Art Ganz; Alicia MacManus; Annemarie Alberino; dbeutel
Subject: Re: Regarding 2017-12-086 Application of Perry Raso 629 Succotash Road

Dear Mr. Capaldi,
Thank you for objecting to Mr. Raso's comment regarding his desire to expand his shellfish business into public waters in South Kingstown's Segar Cove. While certainly it may be true that he has not seen anyone fin or shellfishing in the cove, his statement identifies precisely how little time he has spent in the area and how small his concern is for the public.

I can personally assure you, there is extensive recreational use of that area. Indeed, the cove is a well known by recreational fishermen and guides who bring customers into the area to target striped bass feeding on cinder worms during the warm months and regulars like me who fish that cove and surrounding waters as long as there is no ice. While typically I am hesitant to mention the cove by name in my weekly newspaper outdoors column, the area is discussed often with the addition of pictures of sunrises on the cove and fish caught right there. For reference, this picture was taken in May, 2017. That's a keeper sized striped bass, caught from a kayak, in Segar Cove.

I have personally witnessed people using boats to access that eastern edge to dig for shellfish. I have frequently, personally witnessed and enjoyed seeing two people slowly sail a small sailboat around the cove and mooring field. I have personally witnessed and enjoyed watching families race small boats around the pond, towing kids on skis and tubes. I have observed all this from my kayak as I fished the cove and pond. Perhaps Mr. Raso should have spoken with some of these users before he made such a statement to the State.

Mr. Raso's comments border on outrageous and speak loudly to how little consideration he has given to the people who sail, boat,

kayak and fish that cove. I question how someone who is applying to remove three acres from recreational use hasn't made the time to witness the area's myriad of current recreational and commercial users, especially when his other lease is just a few hundred yards to the east. Had he used the public access to the cove at the end of Lake Avenue, the one adjacent to a mooring field full of small boats, he would have observed more than a dozen kayaks, skiffs and inflatable boats beached among the reeds, stored by people who use the cove and pond for recreation. At bare minimum, he could have performed a simple search of Google to see videos of people fishing the cove, in both daylight and at night.

Perhaps Mr. Raso's application should be postponed until he makes time to more properly observe the cove and those who enjoy it. Perhaps his application should be denied for his lack of due diligence before asking to take three acres away from public use to enhance his personal business.

Thank you for your time,
Todd Corayer

todd corayer
fishwrapwriter.com
[facebook.com/fish wrap writer](https://facebook.com/fishwrapwriter)
twitter.com/fishwrapwriter
www.ricentral.com/timeout

----- On Wed, 24 Jan 2018 19:06:31 -0800 **Phil Capaldi**
<philcapaldi@yahoo.com> wrote -----

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)

In the application section (10) it states "I have seen only a occasional paddle craft in the proposed lease which will not be impeded if the lease is granted. I have never seen anyone fishing or shellfishing either commercially or recreationally in the proposed area."

Since 2011, I, along with many other experienced recreational fisherman, have kayaked fished in both Segar Cove and Sycamore Cove. The desired time to fish these locations is in the spring. Early May to be exact. The

File # 2017-12-086

Deb and Terry McCurdy
264 Prospect Road
Wakefield, RI 02879
401-783-4731
deborahannmccurdy@gmail.com

Dear Sir/Madam,

We (Deborah and Terrence McCurdy) would like to object with Mr. Raso's expansion of 3 additional acres of his Oyster farm in Segar Cove (File # 2017-12-086). The proposed alteration will result in significant conflict of the rights of people who have used this portion of the cove for gathering shellfish, fishing for school bass and releasing, fishing eels. Many of us have ventured to this area (proposed site) to gather dinner as well as commercially harvesting clams, hard and soft shells. Segar Cove has seen many commercial shellfishermen since word got out several years ago about the gold mine of clams here in the cove, especially areas near docks and shallow water, the cove has been harvested to the max. There are still a few commercial shellfishermen in the cove, but due to lack of abundance the numbers have decreased. Many of us will go to areas that are more difficult to harvest because there are plenty of shellfish here. Although it is rocky in spots and deeper water we just move a rock and work the tides and we reap what our cove has provided us for years, dinner and maybe a small paycheck. Although it is said we have the right to continue to use the site, we see that we cannot use all the area that Mr. Raso has commercially developed nearby. This area was also used by many for shellfishing, but now is almost impossible to access this area due to boats, platforms, bags, racks, bouy's and of course the feeling of trespassing.

Our other objection is safety. The proposed site is used by so many who boat in the area. The water activity in Segar Cove is always busy in the warmer months. The channel to get into the cove is only big enough for one boat (rocks on both sides) and if you have a boat entering and one leaving you need this area to move to and wait your turn. A vessel with a water skier or towing a tuber needs to swing into this area if unable to go straight through. If forced to take a quick left there are docks, also it is very difficult to see immediately what who else is coming down that side. What does a boater do when having to take the left after the channel and coming head on with a swimmer off the dock? We ask all parties to please consider the public's use of this area for enjoyment to be continued and not jeopardize our safety and ability to gather a dinner or make a small paycheck.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Deb and Terry McCurdy

January 30, 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 Objection and Request for a hearing on the proposal
Sent by regular mail

Dear CRMC:

I am writing to object to the Raso application for a shellfish/scallop farm in Segar Cove. My family has lived on the pond since the mid 1970's. We are constantly outdoors and cannot help but notice all of the activity that happens in the cove and Potter Pond.

Our family enjoys the cove and the pond immensely. We have a dock, a boat, a canoe, a kayak and just this past Christmas we purchased a Paddleboard. We use the cove and Potter Pond on a daily basis, depending on the weather. Our High School aged children are either in the pond or at South Kingston Town Beach during the summer months. There has also been a dramatic increase of swimmers, as well as additional kayak usage in the cove and pond. The cove is also used by a commercial shell fisherman almost year round.

I firmly believe that the above referenced application, which would allow additional commercial use of the pond, would be a detriment to Segar Cove as well as the entire pond. I am objecting to the proposal for the following reasons:

In section 3, the applicant's description of the boundaries of coastal waters and land area that is anticipated to be affected, Mr. Raso contends that the proposed area is "removed from boat traffic and, away from the navigational channel". Additionally, the application states that "the long lines and floating cages would not interfere with boat traffic as there is no commercial assemblages of shellfish in the proposed area and no recreational attraction on the adjacent shoreline."

I disagree with these statements and can attest that power and sailboats, paddle boarders, and kayakers travel this section of the pond on a regular basis. Particularly, over the past several summers, I have observed a dramatic if not exponential increase in the use of the cove by the public. The portion of the cove in question, because of its shape and depth, has become very popular with people water skiing, tubing, kayaking, and paddle boarding. In a sense, Segar Cove has been "discovered" by those having access to the pond.

In section 6, I would suggest that the farm would interfere with the use and enjoyment of the 3 docks. If I am reading the statement correctly, those using the docks would have to do so from the southerly section of the cove only. The application does not state how far north the proposed lease is from the navigational channel. Further, this area of the cove is utilized during the warmer months by the public on a daily basis for the recreational purposes as noted above.

Also, section 10 must address 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 commerce...;" I disagree that the proposed farm "is removed from boat traffic, away from the navigational channel." While the farm would not be in the "navigational channel," as you pass through the inlet to enter the cove, it appears from the descriptions and photos that the farm will interfere with boat traffic as boats pass into and out of the cove.

Additionally, the deepest areas of Potter Pond are Segar Cove and its northernmost part, near Perch Cove. In fact, these are the only two areas of the pond that are amenable to power boating, sailing, water skiing and tubing. The Raso application includes a map which details Potter Pond and its depth. The proposed farm would take up areas of the cove in depths of six (6) to eight (8) feet. This depth is critical to all types of boating and associated activities. To divert 3 acres of Segar Cove to commercial farming would substantially interfere and harm the public right to use the tidal waters.

I would also note that in section 10 of the application, Mr. Raso references the 5% limit on coastal ponds for aquaculture. Potter Pond presently has 2.1% of the surface area being utilized by his present farm. If the proposal is granted, the new farm would increase the ponds overall surface usage to 3.1%. However, what will be the percentage of surface use of Segar Cove with the 3 acre farm? The 620 feet by 215 feet farm will certainly be in conflict with uses such as recreational boating, fishing, swimming, and navigation, uses depended on both water depth and the cove's configuration. Its sheer size is out of proportion to the cove and it would eliminate 3 acres of the pond from the public's use! Further, for those fortunate to live on the cove, there will be constant noise coming from the sorting and harvesting of the oysters/scallops which will substantially interfere with their use and enjoyment of the cove.

I also believe that this commercial endeavor will have an adverse effect on the scenic view of homeowners. While it may not be the floating gear itself, homeowners will view continuously seven days a week the commercial harvesting of the shellfish. They will have to contend with the noise and diminishment of their view by the constant flow of the commercial vessels to and from the farm. This activity will have an adverse scenic impact.

All who care for our wonderful saltwater ponds appreciate the environmental benefits of aquaculture and want to preserve and improve their habitat. However, we also feel that their recreational uses serve a worthy public purpose, and allowing the proposed farm in Segar Cove would seriously impact its recreational use.

In conclusion, the Raso application should be denied for the foregoing reasons. I am objecting to the application and I am requesting a hearing to voice my objection and reasoning. I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding a hearing date. Thank you for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,



Rick J. Romano

195 Atlantic Avenue

Matunuck, RI 02879

Mobile: 860-770-5059

Email: rick.romano@middletownct.gov

cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov

From: Michael Mainelli <mrmainelli1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 12:15 PM
To: cstaff1@crmc.ri.gov
Cc: Mark Petrarca; davidclatham@gmail.com
Subject: File Number 2017-12-086, Raso Application, Segar Cove, Potter Pond

Coastal Resources Management Council
Oliver Stedman Government Center
4808 Tower Hill Road Suite #3
Wakefield, RI 02879

Re: File # 2017-12-086, Raso Application, Segar Cove

Dear Members:

I am a thirty (30) year resident of Segar Cove, living on the waterfront at the very south end of the Cove. Indeed, after every Northeaster, residents of the Cove (and beyond) search my property for lost and blown items.

I wish to appeal to your good offices in vehement opposition to the proposed oyster farming tract proposed by Mr. Raso in the subject application. As you can readily see from Potter Pond maps, there are only two (2) Pond areas suitable for recreational power boating, in area and depth, despite the overall vastness of the Pond. One area is the northern reach, just south of Perch Cove and Route One. The second area is Segar Cove. All other areas are shallow, weed grassed, and used only for passage in recognized channels. And within Segar Cove, usage is limited to the northern reach, as there is abundant residential dockage and the SK "F" mooring field at the southern half.

In the "power boatable" northern half of Segar Cove, power boating tends to proceed in a "Great Circle" fashion, either clockwise or counter-clockwise, depending on boater density. These Circle boaters are water skiers, tubers, skidoo or board riders. Pontoon craft, kayakers, paddle boarders and sail craft by and large stay leisurely to the center of the "Great Circle" or the southern end of Segar Cove. Hence, Segar Cove is a recreational destination by itself with extensive fair weather traffic, notwithstanding those who shove off for the northern end of Potter, or are heading out to Salt Pond.

This proposed farming tract, even assuming it is comprised of three square acres stacked north to south, with its acreage 30 to 40 feet off the eastern shore and its additional need for workboat access on the tract's western side, will put a major "dent" in our "Great Circle" utilization pattern and may in fact challenge boaters' sense and estimation of proximity to the tract, creating unforeseen perils. The working western edge of the proposed tract could extend almost 300 feet to the west, hence the "dent" into boatable waters, bringing powered and unpowered craft into confusing proximity.. The overall proposed farming tract could obligate up to 150,000 square feet of navigable Segar Cove, after factoring in distance off the eastern shore and northern and western tract markers. That's too big a bite out of Segar Cove, especially with equally desirable alternate tracts in the northern end of Potter Pond.

Given all considerations, even acknowledging that the proposed location is a perfect "lee" location protecting Raso assets and operations from damaging nor'easters (unlike his current Potter operations that get savaged each year), a single for-profit commercial consideration just does not stand up to the access, interests and enjoyments of residents, visitors and tourists who look to the Pond-related recreational offerings of South Kingstown. Besides, countering the "oyster demand" argument in the application, I have never seen a sign "Temporarily Out of Oysters" at the Oyster Bar location! Of course, business expansion may create demand, but Segar Cove is not the answer.

Please schedule a public hearing on the Application so you may witness the quantity and quality of local opposition to this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael R. Mainelli
142 Prospect Road
Wakefield, Rhode Island 02879
789-4367
mrmainelli1@yahoo.com

From: William G. DeMagistris
83 Prospect Rd. Wakefield, RI 0287

January 31, 2018

Tel. 401-480-6152, cell 401-480-6152, email bilden@cox.net

To: Coastal Resources Management Council

RE: Request for hearing re: Application of P. Raso, CRMC File # 2017-12-086,
for extension of Oyster farm into Segar Cove

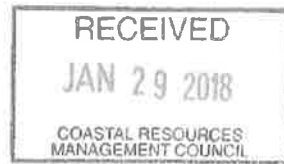
Based upon 14 years of experience engaging in boating and other water recreational activities on Segar Cove, and having reviewed Mr. Raso's application, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Mr. Raso's application and proposal to extend his oyster cultivation farm into Segar Cove on Potter Pond.

For almost 15 years my wife and I have resided, year round, at our 83 Prospect Road home which fronts on Seaweed Cove in Potter Pond. We have a dock on Seaweed Cove. Over the years we and our family and friends have operated our 18 ft. Edgewater out board, RI license # 19352, Kayaks, paddle boards, and engaged in shell fishing, water skiing, tubing, and swimming in Segar Cove. I have observed many others engaging in such activities on Segar Cove, and such activity has increased over the years. Based upon that experience and my observations I firmly believe that the extension of Mr. Raso's oyster farm into Segar Cove necessarily resulting in constricting and reducing the area now available for recreational use would detrimentally affect and interfere with the citizens' recreational use of Segar Cove and substantially increase the likelihood of accidents and collisions involving those engaging in such activities. I find that Mr. Raso's representations regarding the extent of recreational use on Segar Pond to be incorrect and dramatically understated.

I would join in and incorporate herein by reference the documents and comments on this application from Mr. Robert Hefner of 231 Sycamore Lane, Wakefield, RI 02879

Respectfully submitted,

William G, DeMagistris



1/29/18

To whom it may concern:

File Number 2017-12-086, Raso Application

I have clammed and quahogged in the proposed area for all my life. There are abundant beds of quahogs there. Over the years, I seen many commercial fishermen using bullrakes in this very area.

I have a 15' boat with a mooring in Seaweed Cove. I bring many people through that area, as it is one of the few areas that you can drive a boat at full speed.

I've known Perry Raso for many years. I both like him and respect the hard work that has made his business the great success it is over the years. I supported his previous application. Having lived in Matunuck all my life, I felt that his present farm would not infringe on hardly anybody's right to enjoy this pond. However this present application is in deeper water, which would impede enjoyable navigation.

W. Michael McKenna

1044 Matunuck Beach Rd

Wakefield, RI 02879

*M2CR@Verizon.net
401 480 2949*