# In The Matter Of: <br> Coastal Resources Management Council Perry Raso 

Hearing<br>Vol. 4<br>December 4, 2020

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING

IN RE:
CRMC File No. 2017-12-086
In the matter of Perry Raso
$\star \star \star \star \star \star \star \star * * * * * * * * *$

Date: December 4, 2020
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Place: Via Zoom
Rhode Island

MEMBERS PRESENT
Jennifer Cervenka, Chair
Raymond C. Coia, Vice Chair
Donald T. Gomez
Patricia Reynolds
Anthony DeSisto, Esquire, Legal Counsel
STAFF PRESENT
Jeff Willis, Executive Director
Lisa Turner, Secretary
Ryan Moore, Moderator
James Boyd, Deputy Director

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APPEARANCES
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FOR THE OBJECTORS.........PARTRIDGE SNOW \& HAHN LLP (Hunt, Latham, Cooney BY: Christian Capizzo, Esq. and Quigley) Textron Tower

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FOR THE OBJECTORS.........SHECHTMAN HALPERIN SAVAGE, LLP (Andrew Wilkes and BY: Dean Wagner, Esq. 454 Beach Road, LLC.) 1080 Main Street Pawtucket, RI 02860 dwagner@shslawfirm.com

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020
[COMMENCING AT 11:15 A.M.]
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I'll call the meeting to order. Today's date is December 4, 2020. It's 11:11 a.m., and this is a meeting of the subcommittee of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council.

We are here on our fourth meeting to consider an application, File Number 2017-12-086, in the matter of Perry Raso's application to establish a three-acre oyster and bay scallop farm using floating and suspended gear in Potter Pond, South Kingstown, Rhode Island.

I'm going to introduce for the record all of our Subcommittee members. When I call your name, if you can unmute and indicate that you're here. Starting first with Vice-chair Raymond Coia.

MR. COIA: Ray Coia is here.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you. Patricia
Reynolds?
MS. REYNOLDS: Patricia Reynolds here.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you. Don Gomez?
MR. GOMEZ: Don Gomez here.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: And Vin Murray, our South
Kingstown representative.
MR. MURRAY: Vin Murray here.

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CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: And myself, Jennifer
Cervenka, Chair. From our staff, same thing, when I call your name, if you can indicate that you're here. Our executive director Jeffrey Willis?

MR. WILLIS: Willis here.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Our deputy director Jim Boyd?

MR. BOYD: Jim Boyd here, Madam Chair.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Our chief legal counsel Tony DeSisto?

MR. DESISTO: DeSisto here.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Our secretary Lisa
Turner?
MS. TURNER: Here, Madam Chair.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Our moderator Ryan Moore?
MR. MOORE: Here, Madam Chair.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: And our court reporter
Lisa Reis?
COURT REPORTER: Here.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. I thought that we were going to have Mr. Beutel with us, but maybe that's later on in our program; is that correct?

MR. WILLIS: That is correct, Madam Chair.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Goetsch is here, just

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not visibile, but he's in the attendee group? MR. WILLIS: That's correct.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Before we get into the matter, as we always do $I$ will turn it over to our moderator Ryan Moore just to indicate what this Zoom format is, the rules for participating, and the authority under which we're hosting it in this matter.

Mr. Moore?
MR. MOORE: Thank you, Madam Chair.
The virtual Subcommittee meeting of December 4, 2020 for the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council conducted in accordance with Executive Order 20-93-88 supplemental emergency declaration extension of Executive Orders.

If you have any problems with your computer audio, please use the call-in number listed for this meeting.

Council members, Applicant and CRMC staff, please keep your video on. Do not use phone and computer audio at the same time. Please raise your hand to be recognized by the Chair. Identify yourself by name. Use the chat box to communicate any issues with the audio or video to the moderator.

Members of the public, please keep your videos off. Mute your microphone when not speaking. Use the raise

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hand function to be recognized by the Chair. When you are recognized by the Chair and unmuted by the moderator to speak, identify yourself by name.

Those on the phone, please press *9 to use the raise hand function. When recognized, identify yourself by full name. Once again, use the chat box to communicate any issues of audio or video to the moderator. The $Q$ and A feature is disabled for this meeting.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, Mr. Moore. Okay. We've been at it for about 14 hours, and when we last broke I believe we were on Mr. Capizzo's first witness -- this is for the opposition -- Mr. Whitney. And Ms. Noonan was in the midst of a cross-examination. I'm not sure if it's been completed yet. I'll ask her in a minute.

We're scheduled to go today for quite a while up until 5:30. I would like it to be shorter if we can be efficient, but if we need the time we have until 5:30. We'll complete the opposition's case, and then we will have any rebuttal from the Applicant if needed or desired, and then we will finish today with questions that the Subcommittee members may have of Mr. Beutel based on what's come in through the Applicant's and opponents' cases. We can have some limited questions
from the Applicant or opponents' counsel for Mr. Beutel as well, but he's going to be available the last couple of hours, Mr. Willis, one hour?

MR. WILLIS: Yes, Madam Chair, on the
assumption that today was going to be finished for the opposition's witness and cross. Dave could be available towards the end of the meeting. Just didn't have a particular time frame for that.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Is someone going to be in touch with him?

MR. WILLIS: Yes.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Today we will -- whatever the case, we will not start public comment. Public comment will be started at a subsequent meeting. Since we were all here last time, we did consider whether or not we should have longer periods of time during which the public could speak. I think we ended up at a five to ten-minute period as opposed to a two-minute period because there were some members of the public who thought that two minutes was too restrictive, and written comment which we will consider.

In addition to all written comment that has been submitted already by those who are going to speak, we feel that all of those things combined will provide a
more than adequate opportunity to communicate any concerns. So, again, that won't start until next time but we wanted to preview that.

I think, Mr. Willis, correct me if I'm wrong, that that's been communicated through our public website or e-mails; is that correct?

MR. WILLIS: Yes. We began that communication and we'll continue to remind everybody of that process. CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you. So we're on Mr. Whitney. He's still under oath. I'm trying to find you, Mr. Whitney. You're still under oath and you understand that, correct?

MR. WHITNEY: I do, yes.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: And Ms. Noonan, are you going to continue with cross-examination?

MS. NOONAN: Yes, I am. I don't expect it to be lengthy, but yes. Can I ask one thing, if you don't mind before starting in terms of the public comment? Am I correct that the sign-ups for public comment ended on $I$ believe Friday, November 13th?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I'll defer that to Jeff. MR. WILLIS: Yes, the public comment sign-up period has concluded. We have the list in the order that those folks have asked to speak. That will be conveyed

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to the Chair so that she can alert everybody, but we have already published that list as well.

MS. NOONAN: I just note that there's a website, I believe, Save Potter Pond, and they are still saying on that website that you can sign up for public comment. I know that's not what you guys are saying. I just wanted to make sure that that was out there to the public.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: All right.
MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, Dean Wagner is having video issues. He emailed me, so if Ryan can help him.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Can he hear us?
MR. CAPIZZO: I believe so.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Ask him first if he can hear us, and if he can we will proceed without his video.

MR. CAPIZZO: He can hear. PAYSON WHITNEY, Previously sworn testifies as follows:

CONTINUED CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. NOONAN
Q. All right, Mr. Whitney, how are you doing?
A. I'm okay. How are you?
Q. Great, thank you. As the Chair said, you're still under
oath from last time. You are aware of that, right?
A. I am, yes.
Q. Okay. Since the last time you were here, which was November 17 th, what if anything have you done in relation to this project?
A. The only thing I've done is I reviewed the transcript a little bit this morning and reviewed some of my notes and looked at some of the -- I looked at some of our figure in terms we were discussing the width of the pond when we left. That's all I've done.
Q. Great. I'm going to ask you, did you communicate -- and that's texts, email, Zoom, smoke signals -- with anyone about this application since we last met on the 17th?
A. I have not.
Q. Okay. Did you obtain any input from anyone on the issue of the 200-foot buffers in Section 4-8 of the town's ordinances?
A. No.
Q. And did you have any conversations with the harbormaster?
A. No.
Q. That being the South Kingstown harbormaster.
A. Correct, still no.
Q. And did you have any other changes or corrections to your report which is Objectors' Exhibit 1?
A. I don't believe so at this time, no.
Q. Okay. Perfect. Is it fair to say that as part of the peer review that you did, that you just accepted the applicability of the buffers in Section 4-8 of the town ordinance and didn't question whether or not they were appropriately enacted by CRMC?
A. That's correct. I reviewed the regulations and saw that they were regulations and accepted them at face value.
Q. Perfect, fine. Although your report is dated, I believe, April 20, 2020, did you have a chance to review the staff report from Mr. Beutel that was dated June 2, 2020 ?
A. I did, yes. June 20th?
Q. June 2nd, I'm sorry, too many 2 s there.
A. Let me check. I don't remember. I thought it was more recent closer to this hearing than that.
Q. If I might, I think we received it more recently, but the date is June 2nd on the document itself. I think we received it either late October or early November.
A. Okay. I don't know if $I$ see a date on this or not.
Q. Okay. On Page 1 of the staff report it does say January 2, 2020. That's Exhibit 17.
[PAUSE]
A. Here we go. Yes, the date on it is June 2, 2020.
Q. Correct?
A. That's the date, yep.
Q. Were you on this Zoom hearing for Mr. Beutel's testimony on November 12th?
A. I was.
Q. All right. And in the staff report which I'd like to go to now, which is Exhibit 17, did you review the categories of objection on the topics on Page 2 that Mr. Beutel lists?
A. Yes.
Q. All right. And going in the area of navigation, let's see, just looking at the report, he bullets them down just to list them and then the second half of the page he bullets them with a little discussion. Do you see that there?
A. I do, I have it right In front of me, yes.
Q. Perfect. Okay. One of the categories he has is navigation, which is the bullet at the bottom of Page 2 . Do you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. Great. And I think we talked about last time that your navigation experience in terms of this has to do as a recreational boater, correct?
A. In terms of as well as my time out doing marine surveys, yes.
Q. But you don't have a captain's license, right?
A. I don't have a captain's license, no.
Q. At the bottom of Page 2, Exhibit 17, Mr. Beutel notes that "navigation, this includes boating, waterskiing, tubing, kayaking, paddle boarding, et cetera." Do you agree with his classification of navigation?
A. I do.
Q. Okay. And then he goes on to state that this site will have an effect on all those activities. Do you agree with that statement also?
A. Yes.
Q. Then he proceeds to say at the bottom of Page 2, "The significance of effect is debatable as is the amount of navigational activity in Segar Cove." Do you see that?
A. I see that, yes.
Q. Do you have any basis to disagree with Mr. Beutel in that statement?
A. Seems like it's his opinion, so I don't know that I have a basis to disagree with it.
Q. Then going on to the end of that where he says, "floating gear is safer to navigate than bottom gear because of its visibility." Do you agree with that statement?
A. I guess in some senses, yes. I'm not really sure what he's driving at there.
Q. Did you state an opinion as to the relative safety -strike that.

You didn't state an opinion in your report as to the relative safety between bottom gear and floating gear, did you?
A. We did not, no. We didn't make that distinction.
Q. All right. Continuing on to Page 3 of Exhibit 17, Mr. Beutel goes into a bullet point of recreation at the top of Page 3 there, Mr. Whitney. Do you see that?
A. Yes, I do.
Q. And he notes that boating activities have been previously acknowledged and that swimming through an aquaculture site is not advisable. Do you agree with that?
A. I wouldn't swim through an aquaculture facility.
Q. Okay. That's good enough for me. He then goes on to state, he references the five percent rule. I won't read all the citations there. But what he then says is, open quote, "if this site is permitted, Potter Pond will be at three percent of allowable aquaculture activity. All other activities will have 97 percent of the pond for their opportunity."

Do you have any basis to disagree with Mr. Beutel's statement of this?
A. Yes.

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MR. CAPIZZO: I would object to that question. It's beyond the scope of his expertise.

MS. NOONAN: Well, I disagree because he did make a statement that we were under the five percent and he goes into calculations of the relative amount of space that -- he does talk about that in his report.

MR. DESISTO: It seems allowable and relevant. He should answer.
Q. Mr. Whitney, do you have the question in your mind?
A. I think your question was, do I have an opinion as to the accuracy of that statement or something to that effect?
Q. I took the exact quote and I asked you, do you have any basis to disagree with that statement?
A. I do.
Q. What is that?
A. He's basing the three percent on the physical space, and he's saying there's 97 percent of the pond for their opportunity. You know, just with the buffers that are established by the South Kingstown ordinance, that takes additional area away. So I don't believe that 97 percent is accurate.
Q. So you think the town buffers would cut into that 97 percent, right?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. And you previously testified that you heard Mr. Beutel's testimony the first day of these proceedings, right?
A. I did.
Q. And you heard him testify that it is staff's opinion that Mr. Raso has met all of the criteria for Category $B$ assent; do you recall that?
A. Vaguely. I don't remember his exact words. It's been a number of weeks at this point.
Q. Well, just to refresh your recollection, I'm referring to the transcript -- my phone is ringing for some reason. If you guys can bear with me, I'm going to mute my office call here.
[PAUSE]
Q. Going to the transcript of this hearing starting Volume I, Page 30, did you review this first transcript at all or just --
A. No. The only day $I$ reviewed was the day of my testimony. It was the only day $I$ was provided.
Q. All right. Well, Page 30 of the transcript, Line 17, Chairwoman Cervenka asked:
"And Mr. Beutel, in your opinion and based on your review of the application materials, they not only address the Category B criteria, but they were satisfied.

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So the standard, in your opinion, was met for Category B," to which Mr. Beutel answers: That's correct. It is staff opinion that he has met all of the criteria for Category B -- it says objections, but I think he meant assents.

Does that refresh your recollection of Mr. Beutel's testimony?
A. Yes.

MS. NOONAN: Madam Chair, may I just have a moment?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Yes.
[PAUSE]
MS. NOONAN: Thank you, Mr. Whitney. I have no further questions for you.

THE WITNESS: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Mr. Capizzo, back to you. I also wanted to just follow up on the exhibit issue we had last time. I think that the exhibits were found. They had been sent in hard copy to the agency. I think they've been provided to Ms. Noonan. Is that correct?

MS. NOONAN: Yes.
MR. CAPIZZO: That is correct, Madam Chair.
They were sent hand-delivered, I believe, to Coastal

Resources, I believe on Tuesday before the first hearing so I think it was on the 10th. They were inadvertently not sent. And relating to Exhibits 20, I think 20 -MS. NOONAN: 24,25 and 26 .

MR. CAPIZZO: That's correct, were not sent to Ms. Noonan via email or Mr. Wagner or to Coastal via email. They were hand-delivered. No copies were sent to Ms. Noonan and Mr. Wagner on November 23rd. I did receive confirmation from Ms. Turner that they did in fact did receive the amended exhibit list on the 10th, but that it had not been uploaded to the system. It's my understanding the Subcommittee members have that information before them now.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: They are up on our packet. So you intend to use these, correct, or introduce them?

MR. CAPIZZO: Yes. I would ask that they be marked as a full exhibit. I did take testimony from Mr. Whitney on those exhibits. I ask they be marked as full.

MS. NOONAN: I do not have an objection to Exhibit 24 , the visuals that you took pictures of. I generally object to 25 and 26. They are municipal ordinances and regulations that $I$ don't think need to be

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part of the record. I also -- what I don't see in Exhibit 25 is, that's just the town certification of the document. So my objection is that we do not know for certain that CRMC has accepted these ordinances as part of the Harbor Management Plan.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. So just as to kind of applicable legal authority, do those need to be exhibits, Mr. DeSisto?

MR. DESISTO: Well, the question being raised is relevance, but otherwise they are admissible documents. So I would recommend that they be admitted into evidence particularly since they have been certified to. There will be questions as to whether or not they are relevant and are applicable to the Harbor Management Plan, but they are otherwise admissible documents.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. So they come in, and then $I$ guess, Ms. Noonan, you can make argument as to their relevance or weight.

MS. NOONAN: Correct. Thank you.
MR. CAPIZZO: While we're doing cleanup real quick, there were two other exhibits marked for ID and accepted subject to certification by the South Kingstown Waterfront Advisory Commission and the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council. Emails were sent to Ms. Turner

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as well as Ms. Noonan, Mr. DeSisto and Mr. Wagner. We did receive certification of the South Kingstown Waterfront Advisory Meeting Minutes from February 14, 2018, and that's on opposition on the amended proposed exhibit list, Number 12. And then Number 13 on that same amended proposed exhibit list we did receive certification from the Chair of the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council for the meeting Minutes of 3-14-18. So I'd ask those for the record be marked as full exhibits as well.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. I see that 12 -it looks like we have the certified copy that we're looking at, and then I'm Just waiting for 13 to open up. Is that accurate, Ms. Turner?

MS. TURNER: Yes, Madam Chair, we do have those.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. And I see that we have the certification from the Rhode Island Marine Fisheries Council for 13. So thank you for supplying those certifications.

MR. CAPIZZO: And the only other issues while we're on this is on the second amended proposed exhibit list. Number 10, the South Kingstown Waterfront Advisory Commission letter to CRMC dated 2-15-18, I just ask --

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this is included. I believe this was a letter sent to Mr. Beutel from the South Kingstown Waterfront Advisory Commission as a result of their hearings which we have the Minutes that are marked as full exhibits and already part of the Coastal file. Just for the purposes of the record, I would like that to be marked as Opposition Exhibit 10. I don't think it has been formally introduced, although part of a very comprehensive CRMC file. So if there's been a reference made to it, as well as to the Minutes of those hearings, and that letter is the culmination of the hearings that took place that were filed with Mr. Beutel.

MR. DESISTO: Is it already part of the CRMC file?

MR. CAPIZZO: It is, Mr. DeSisto. My concern is I am not sure where it lies in that comprehensive file. So I would just like it marked as an exhibit. If someone is reviewing this, they can refer to that versus trying to go through the entire file.

MR. DESISTO: It seems duplicative.
MR. CAPIZZO: I don't disagree with you, but
just for the purpose of ease of reference of that document which has been referred to.

MR. DESISTO: Haven't we already had this

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discussion?
MR. CAPIZZO: Not on this.
MR. DESISTO: Not for this particular document, but other documents that are part of the CRMC file where there's been an attempt to introduce them.

MR. CAPIZZO: I think there were multiple documents, and so $I$ don't disagree with you on the duplicity of those documents. But because this document is referenced specifically and as a result of those Minutes, $I$ just would request it be marked as a full exhibit.

MR. DESISTO: Madam Chair, I am very reluctant on this because it seems if a document is already part of the CRMC file, you don't want the precedent to have it marked as a separate exhibit. It just doesn't wash.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Yeah, I mean, I'm okay just relying upon what's already part of the file that is an exhibit in this case. It might be confusing if it's reviewed at a later time that there are two separate exhibits but they are the same. So I think for ease of administrative record it would be better to just have one.

MR. DESISTO: You said it better than I. Even Mr. Capizzo agrees with that. I can tell by his smile.

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MR. CAPIZZO: No problem. I will move along. Madam Chair, with your permission, just a brief redirect. But before $I$ begin a brief redirect, I was not sure, I can't recall from the last hearing whether Mr. Wagner had questions or he had no questions for this witness. I can't see him, but apparently he can hear us. I don't know if he is able to unmute himself.

MS. NOONAN: He had indicated that he had no questions for this witness. I asked that specifically.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Wagner, can you confirm?

MR. CAPIZZO: While we're waiting for him, I'll move along with my redirect. Hopefully he can resolve his audio/visual issues.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Maybe tell him to try to get in via a different device. I mean, go ahead. We'll figure it out.

MR. CAPIZZO: Yes. I would suggest, and Ryan can take care of it, logging in and logging back in or potentially a different device. I did see him originally. I'll move along with.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. CAPIZZO
Q. Payson, how are you today?
A. Good, Christian. How are you?
Q. Good, thanks. I just have a couple of questions. One related to your testimony that Beth had asked you about, this one for one skier. In the transcript, Page 472 of the transcript, Beth had asked you:
"Again, moving this whole thing in terms of just skiers is for one skier, additional skier to be allowed to use the cove if the farm is put into place."

Your answer is: "One at a time. Not one total." Is that correct?
A. That's correct, yes.
Q. Okay. So we're talking about waterskiers. I know your testimony has been focused on towed water sports, the application of the two ordinances to towed water sports and personal watercraft and the relation to the buffer. The impact it would have, and I believe Ms. Reynolds asked you about the geometry, and we looked at Figure 5 with the circles. I'm getting to the question.

Does the proposed leased area impact other recreational uses, such as someone just taking a powerboat without a towed skier or a sailboat down that quarter of Segar Cove where the proposed farm is?
A. I would say in terms of a power boater, obviously, or any boater, if there are objects in the water then a boater that may have gone there before something was there will
not go there because there's an object in the way. So, yes, I would say in that instance, yes.
Q. And where would it push like a sailboat or a water boat, I know we talked about this compression, does it push them closer to the cove?
A. It would.
Q. And in regards to that compressed area, I know you talked about the turns having to be tighter creating more wake, creating more speed to make those turns. When you talk about one skier at a time, that's usually one boat with one skier or potentially two skiers on a boat potentially; is that correct?
A. That's how skiing is done, yeah, it's normally one to -I've actually done five. But, yeah, I think what we were talking about was the number of vessels that could be engaged in that activity at the time. I think that's what the discussion was about.
Q. Okay. If those boats are operating in that compressed area in the cove, when I say "those boats," waterskiing, whether it's one, two, three or four, would you agree with me that -- strike that. Let me rephrase the question.

When you have waterskiing happening in that area, you just testified that you would be unable to use that
corridor where the proposed farm is. So either you're not using it or you're forced to go to another area of the cove to navigate in that cove, correct?
A. Correct.
Q. Okay. What happens to -- what's the impact of individuals in the water in that compressed area as it relates to towed water sports and waterskiing, that compressed area?
A. Can you explain what you mean by "individuals"?
Q. Yes. So let's say you've taken people skiing before, you testified. You're waterskiing in that compressed area, you said it's tight turn, higher speed to make those turns if that farm was there. The skier falls, multiple vessels in the area. What's the impact of that compressed area on waterskiers or those recreating in the water?
A. In the incident you described, if a skier falls obviously that becomes a person in the water. And in a compressed area, you know, boats are supposed to be maintaining distance so that becomes something that a boat has to stay 200 feet away from. So it raises the awareness and also the compressed area reduces the ability to be able to react, to be able to either go left or right to avoid that person in the water.
Q. There was some testimony that you had made about whether or not you did -- I think Mr. Murray asked a question about traffic study or Beth had asked a question whether or not you conducted traffic studies or barometric readings for depth. You didn't do any of those, correct?
A. We didn't, no.
Q. You have given opinion about the Coastal Resources regulations as it relates to the burdens that Mr. Rasso has to satisfy in order to get this application approved through Coastal?
A. Yes. There are a number of them, yes, yes.
Q. Am I correct in saying that those burdens, those responsibilities are Mr. Raso's, not those who live on the cove, correct, to satisfy those conditions?
A. Correct.

MR. CAPIZZO: Just one moment, Madam Chair.
[PAUSE]
MR. CAPIZZO: I don't think I have any other questions. Thank you, Payson.

THE WITNESS: Thank you.
MS. NOONAN: Thank you, Mr. Whitney.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Capizzo, are you calling a second witness?

MR. CAPIZZO: I see Mr. Wagner logged on twice.

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I don't know if we have him.
MR. WAGNER: Can you hear me?
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I can.
MR. WAGNER: I have no questions. Ms. Noonan is correct, $I$ have no questions for that last witness. Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Great, thanks. Are you okay with participating this way?

MR. WAGNER: Yes. As long as $I$ can hear and talk, that's great. Thank you. No one is going to miss my face.

MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, I would call as my next witness -- Ryan, if you could grant access to Kevin Hunt, please. Kevin, can you hear me?

MR. HUNT: I can.
MR. CAPIZZO: Can you see me and the other members of the Subcommittee as well as CRMC staff?

MR. HUNT: I see you and myself.
MR. CAPIZZO: As long as you can hear me. I think, Ryan, he can change his view maybe.
[PAUSE]
KEVIN HUNT
Being duly sworn testifies as follows:
MR. DESISTO: Please state your name and spell
it for the record.
MR. HUNT: My name is Kevin Hunt, $K-E-V-I-N$, $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{U}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{T}$.

MR. DESISTO: Thank you.
MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, may I proceed?
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Yes.
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. CAPIZZO
Q. Good late morning, Kevin. How are you?
A. Very good, Christian. How are you doing?
Q. Good, thanks. All right. Can you tell the Subcommittee and the staff -- actually, let's start here. Do you own a house on Segar Cove?
A. Yes. I live at 98 Segar Court on Potter's Pond with my wife Kristen and two children. I've been there since 2002 .
Q. How did you come to Segar Cove?
A. Well, I grew up in Matunuck and I used to fish and play on the pond with my father and grandfather. I had great times. And I decided when I was younger that I would somehow get back to the pond. Honestly I sort of forgotten about that promise.

September 11, 2001 it was brought back into focus.
I was on the 74 th floor of the Trade Center, South Tower, and I survived. That night Kris and I decided to move
back to Rhode Island full-time, and six months later we bought a home on the pond.
Q. The home that you're talking, Kris is your wife, correct?
A. Yes.
Q. The home that you're talking about, and has been referenced, let me take a step back.

You participated in the hearings on the 12th, 13th and 17 th or at least have been listening to everyone's testimony?
A. I did.
Q. You reviewed the Coastal Resources file?
A. I did, and the application, yes.
Q. And did you have an opportunity to view Mr. Beutel's report?
A. Yes, I did, and I heard his testimony as well.
Q. Kevin, the property that we're talking about is known as Ram's Point; is that correct?
A. Yes, it's known as Ram's Point.
Q. You lived there since 2002. Can you describe your property on Ram's Point? I know we've seen it from a map. I'm trying to get my exhibit to populate. While we do that, can you describe the area for the Subcommittee where you live and how you access the property?
A. Yeah. So as Christian said, I am on Ram's Point. To

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access it, I go down Sycamore off Matunuck Beach Road and then go down Segar Court. There's a driveway, a gravel driveway, and going to my property is probably about a half a mile long. We have a six-acre parcel there on both Segar Court, Potter Pond and Sycamore Cove.
Q. You've heard reference made to your dock. Can you explain the two sides, the eastern and western side of your property?
A. Yes. The eastern side of my property is where I have the dock. It's the western side where the proposed farm is.
Q. Are you familiar with Potter Pond?
A. I have a birds eye view of Potter Pond. In fact, Perry's existing lease is right on [ZOOM INTERRUPTION] and I have boated on that pond for a number of years. I have a motorboat, paddle board, kayak. In the old days I used to go out in my row boat there. I used to do some swimming. Not as much now. In the old days I did some skiing with the kids. They've gotten older and don't do much more of that anymore.
Q. How are you familiar with Mr. Raso's current operations?
A. I've known Perry since I moved there. Actually, I was one of his biggest advocates for that farm. It's only about 240 yards off my property. I watched it grow from the small farm where he used to service -- I heard him
talk about small skiffs. He had a smaller skiff back then. Him and his dog used to service it, under the water, very small. And now as you know, it's grown. It's grown to above water industrial complex. He has big crews, barges, permanent floating work station there.

Despite that, Perry and I remain friends. I still support him in his efforts there. But it's a different facility than it was in the old days and, you know, it is not only visually, but it's a lot of activity there. Perry has a much deserved reputation for his work ethic. Anyone who has seen him in the restaurant or out on the pond, he works all the time as does his crew. They are not there nine to five, but they are there all hours.

In fact, on September 5th of this year $I$ was woken by lights on my bedroom wall. Low and behold out there in the facility were all these boats and lights in the middle of the night. So, you know, it's really a full-time manufacturing facility.
Q. How would you describe your relationship with Perry over the years?
A. It's been very good. I mean, again, I'm very supportive of him, both his farm and also the restaurant. As you probably recall, in the early days, he asked me for business advice. People were looking to buy equity
into his restaurant, and $I$ told him borrow the money. Don't give up equity. Don't sell the equity. It would go against you long-term.
Q. In regards to the current operations that are off of your -- his current operations I should say, have you had the opportunity to observe people navigating in or around his current operation?
A. No. I heard some of that testimony. You know, I haven't seen anyone go through there with paddle boats. Certainly I didn't try. Other buoys out there marking his place. I see people go around the edges, but I've never seen anyone go through there. Again, I'm retired. I am there every day of the week, you know, and I've never seen anybody go through there.
Q. Can you describe for the Subcommittee, and I'm actually -- let's see. For the record, this is Exhibit 2 which has been entered as a full exhibit. Hold on a second.
[PAUSE]
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. Kevin, can you see Exhibit 2, or Figure 2, I should say? A. I can.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. Madam Chair, are you able to see it as well?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I am. Thank you.
Q. So Kevin, Ram's Point I'm going to take the cursor, this is for the record, where the cursor is right now, that is your property?
A. It is.
Q. And the causeway you referred to, Kevin, is it from your house, it goes along here?
A. Right all the way up to Segar Court Road.
Q. Where the cursor is now to the -- let's say to the southeast of your property, is that where your current dock is now?
A. It is, yes.
Q. Okay. Could you describe this area of Segar Cove for the Subcommittee, please, and what this is known as?
A. Yes. That's called Sycamore Cove. And actually it's a lot of eelgrass and very interestingly, by the way, the CRMC I think and DEM have sort of an experimental oyster field in that area along the causeway all the way down to my neighbor's property. They are growing oysters, which is sort of interesting, the size of dinner plates out there. So that area is closed off, sort of slackish water.

So everything north of my dock sort of into that cove is not, you know, is not a great area to fish or swim or do much in because the eelgrass and because it's
sort of the more stagnant water than the experimental facilities there.
Q. So what type of recreational water dependent activities take place in Sycamore Cove based on your proximity to living right there?
A. Not much. You have some fishing. Actually, when there was hatching in late May, early June, there's some fishing there, but people avoid the northern end of that pond because of the eelgrass. They are really sort of more in between my property and Perry's existing facility, then between my point, Ram Point, and Meadow Point which is off to the east of my property.
Q. Are you familiar with what has been referred to in the testimony as the northern basin?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. Can you tell the Subcommittee how you're familiar with the northern basin?
A. Yes. That's the area where we see a lot of recreational boating. You're talking about on Segar Cove; is that correct?
Q. Well, I'm talking not -- let's start with the northern basin which is referred to at Skier's Cove. Some people refer to it as Skier's cove.
A. I understand now. Northern basin of Potter Pond, yes,

I'm very familiar with it. I'll boat up there on an occasional basis. It's very picturesque, very nice. It's a ways away from my dock.

One of the things that hasn't come through in the testimony, in order to get up there to ski, it's going to take a while. You're going to at least spend, depending how fast you're going, it's going to take you five or 15 minutes in a powerboat, and certainly much longer, it's a long pull on a kayak or paddle boat.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. For the record, I'm going to show you what's been marked as a full exhibit, Figure 1B, as in boy, the ESS technical peer report. Are you familiar with this map?
A. I am.
Q. How are you familiar with it?
A. It's been part of the -- this is the ESS's report, and it sort of shows all the areas, the red being it varies you have an issue in terms of, you know, power boarding and power boating, et cetera.
Q. So where the cursor is on the screen, Kevin, that's your property?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. And then where the cursor is now to the south of your property, that is in the general area of where

Mr. Raso's current operations is in proximation to your property?
A. It is, yes.
Q. What type of recreational activity takes place in this part of Potter Pond? When I say this part of Potter Pond, I'm talking about around Mr. Raso's current operations.
A. All sorts of craft will come in, but it's rare that you see -- you won't see any towed sports there. It's just too shallow. But you will see powerboats cruising through there. There's a lot of traffic going through that area, you know, from the various moorings and docks going out toward the ocean, or the cut way. But in that area you can only see paddle boards and kayaks and that type of craft. Again, you don't get too close to Perry's holdings.
Q. Okay. If you are going north to the northern basin, can you describe what type of recreational activity takes place as you head north up Potter Pond following the cursor?
A. Right. It's really shallow. There's just a really narrow channel heading north. You have to sort of go very slow or have your boat planed, if you have a power boat, to get through that area. And then, again, it's
narrow until you really get up all the way to that skier basin or that northern basin. Then you have a little more room there to do whatever you want.

As I said, there's just two areas deep enough and wide enough to do power boating, sailing, those types of activity.
Q. So other than the northern basin, you heard the testimony that the only other deep water area in Potter Pond is Segar Cove; is that correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. I want to draw your attention now to 2 Segar Cove. Hold on one sec. Are you able to see Figure 3 for the record?
A. I can.
Q. Are you familiar with this aerial?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. Okay. So let's talk about your recreation on Segar Cove if you can describe for the Subcommittee what recreation you and your family do on Segar Cove?
A. Yeah. As I said, we used to do some skiing and tubing, but we've gotten away from that as we got old. I'm hoping for grandchildren so $I$ can introduce them to that. Right now my wife and I will do some cruising through that area. I have a paddle board and I enjoy using my paddle board. That cove, Segar Cove, is one my favorite
coves to use. Actually it's where I store my paddle board. The way often to access that is through my causeway, my paddle board. And I'll go out there as well with my kayak. I really enjoy the paddle board. Sometimes that's spills on it.

Also along that side of my property is, it's not going to be anymore, but it's my secret fishing spot. I get a lot of fishing there in all times of seasons, not just when there's hatching. I see other people use that as well.

Actually one of my favorite things to do on that side of my property is at low tide I get my boots on and stir a stick and wander along that shore way. Because of the prevailing winds there's a lot -- you get some interesting debris and whatnot along the shoreline there. So I'm very familiar with that shoreline in the areas proposing for the aquaculture farm. I recreate in that cove myself quite a bit. As well, along the area that hugs my property, you know, we refer to it in the pond as the slow lane.

Along that lane if you're not just participating in the tubing and whatnot, you stay out of their way and, you know, as well, it's a great area -- I've seen pictures that you've shown in your exhibits already, the

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Committee showing. This area of the pond does not have houses. It has great vegetation and trees. It has a lot of wild life.

Right there in my causeway, there's an osprey's nest. That osprey's nest was built in conjunction with the CRMC and DEM. The utility group, because we kept looks osprey to the power lines there, they were trying to build nests there. So a lot of people including myself watch from the water the osprey's nest, and they have chicks every year. It's sort of fun to watch.

Also along that corridor on my property you see there's a family of fox that you see toward the tip of Ran's Point. Also an interesting thing in that property, the deer love to swim from Ram's Point over Prospect Point and further over to the Meadow Point there to the east. So there's a lot of things going on that myself and other people enjoy in that corridor.
Q. When you talked about this osprey nest you say it's on your causeway. Where about on this map on the causeway would you say that osprey nest is closer to your house?
A. The very -- if you look at between my house and the narrow area, it's right in the narrow area of the causeway on the eastern side. Right about there. So again move over a little bit because that's where it is.
Q. Okay. You talked about this slow lane as compared to the other portion of the Segar Cove. What would you consider that, the fast lane?
A. Well, yeah. I think the middle of Segar Cove you're going to get more tubing. You know, I walk down that causeway, I exercise my dog, basically the dog exercises me, several times a day and it gives me a great viewpoint on that body of water. You know, every night that I go up there, 90 percent of the time there are families out there, you know, doing tubing, doing some waterskiing. It seems like families come home after work and go out on the boats with their kids for an hour or two. You know, that's the fastest lane in the middle I would say.

You're going to get more boat traffic. I know I avoid those wakes and hug the shoreline so I don't embarrass myself falling off the paddle board.
Q. You heard the testimony that you can paddle from both Perry and from some of the witnesses that he's presented that you can certainly paddle board through these types of aquaculture farms?
A. I heard the testimony. I know I wouldn't try it. You know, two things. I grew up when you see buoys, if you see buoys you give them respect. You don't go in there above water or below water facility.

I haven't seen them do that on Perry's existing farm. I certainly, you know, I don't think I could paddle through there at all. I wouldn't go out in the kayak through there as well.
Q. You mentioned your secret fishing spot, which is no longer a secret, but where did you say that spot is that you typically fish off your property?
A. Yeah, it's if -- it's about halfway, almost parallel to my house. So you go back a little bit, right about there. So thanks for giving that up, Christian. I shared my secret with the world.
Q. Okay. Other than fishing in that area and some of the recreational activities that you described, did you observe any type of shellfishing or other type of activities in that area where the proposed farm is going to be?
A. Definitely, you know, I was surprised that they said no shellfishing. I see on a regular basis, both wild and commercial shellfishing. Those of you who have done shellfishing, it's hard work. These commercial shell fishermen are back there on a regular basis. If they were taking clams out of that area, they certainly wouldn't be bad. So I've seen them regularly there. MR. CAPIZZO: I think you provided us with a
photograph. For the record, this has been premarked as Exhibit 6, so I'll mark it for ID purposes. Give me one second.
[PAUSE]

## [EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]

Q. Kevin, do you recognize this photograph?
A. Yes, I certainly do. That's the photograph from June 5th of 2018. I'm standing on my causeway. I talked to this gentleman, Gary Anderson, who is a commercial shell fisherman standing right in the spot that Perry wants to use for his aquaculture farm.
Q. Where did you take this photograph from, from your property?
A. Yeah. I'm standing on my causeway, probably the western side of my causeway. It's very narrow, this causeway. I'm standing on this. I was walking by, and I saw him and we chatted. He was third or fourth generation shell fisherman. He lives over in Prospect Point.
Q. Is this a fair and accurate representation of what you observed on that day in June?
A. That is.

MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, I ask this be marked as a full exhibit, Opposition 5, excuse me, 6, for the record.

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CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Any objection?
MS. NOONAN: NO.
MR. CAPIZZO: Thanks, Beth.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: That's admitted full.
[OPPOSITION EXHIBIT \#6 MARKED FOR ID]
Q. Kevin, you had the opportunity to observe the photographs that Perry had submitted in part of his application, around 12, I think he said 12 to one every day for a period of time.
A. I did.
Q. Do you agree with Mr. Raso's application which states, reading from Number 10 which is part of this CRMC file where it asks Mr. Raso how he has demonstrated 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.

Do you agree with Mr. Raso's statement in his application that he's only seeking -- in a proposed leased area which will not be impeded if this lease is granted. I've never seen anyone fishing or shellfishing either commercially in the proposed area.

MR. DESISTO: Before the witness answers the question, since he's fact based, I think the question
should really be whether or not he's observed something that would be contrary to what was in there rather than asking for an opinion. He's testifying on facts, and I think that's fine. Opinion, I don't think, is appropriate here.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Can you reformulate your question, Mr. Capizzo?

MR. CAPIZZO: Yes.
Q. So Kevin, did you hear Mr. DeSisto's articulate suggestion of the question?
A. Yes.
Q. Do you understand the question?
A. Yes. So you're asking what have I observed?
Q. Correct.
A. It's what I observed. I think you heard from some witnesses who have been there a day or you've seen some, you know, moment-in-time photos. But as I said, I'm there every day. With my own eyes I see a great deal of activity on Segar Cove.

As I said, some of these moments in time don't depict the busy time there, which is usually in the evening, when again these hardworking families come home and bring their family out for tubing and waterskiing and recreating.

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Again, every day $I$ walk down that causeway with my dog. Very high percentage of the time there are people out there having fun. Besides the powerboats, again, there's a huge amount of traffic in that slow lane. Often there will be four, five or six paddle boards, full families with dogs on paddle boards out there, rafting together and looking at the osprey nest.

There's a lady who scopes through that area, a lot of moorings. She uses that cove and she also goes over and uses the other side of the cove. Excuse me, the other side of the pond. There are sailors who are there all the time going back and forth. It is one of the areas that you can sail in sort of safely getting back and forth when you have enough space to maneuver. You know, obviously the jet skis and the powerboats, but it's a very active area and obviously with the virus it was more active this summer. One of the safe ways of recreating with your family.

That's my observation. I seen this with my two eyes every day. It is very active.
Q. I want to share with you Figure 4B, which is part of the ESS's technical report. I want to share the screen and let me know if you can see 4B.
[PAUSE]

## [EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]

Q. Are you able to see that, Kevin?
A. I am.
Q. You said you reviewed Perry's application. You're familiar with the proposed configuration of the -polygon?
A. Yes.
Q. I think it's been referred to as Option B?
A. Yes.
Q. On Figure $B$, is that your understanding of what the farm is going to -- how it's going to be configured in Segar Cove?
A. That's my understanding, yes.
Q. What if any concerns do you have as to that location in Segar Cove as it relates to where you live?
A. Well, that's already been testified. That's been around 800 feet along my shoreline, and also Steven's and Alicia's shoreline. In some ways it's going to be as close as 10 feet off my shoreline and only as far away as 65 feet. So based on that, you know, it's really going to preclude me from swimming, fishing, launching a boat or paddle board in that area. There's some talk about maybe you could circumnavigate. You can't circumnavigate there. That water is too shallow. There are some huge

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boulders that are just off my causeway in the middle of that right where it pinches there. You couldn't circumnavigate it if you wanted to.

You know, a sizeable part of my property would be closed off to me in terms of entering the waterway at that point. Again, it's an area $I$ enjoy recreating there unlike the other side of the pond which is sort of stagnant and full of eelgrass.
Q. What impact does this have on your access to the causeway?

MR. CAPIZZO: I'm going to share with you
Figure 4 E if you give me one second.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. Kevin, can you see Figure 4E?
A. I can.

MR. CAPIZZO: For the record, this is
identified as modified proposed aquaculture lease distance to the shoreline.
Q. Are you familiar with this document?
A. I am.
Q. For the record, is the proposed polygon Option B off of your property?
A. Yes.
Q. The causeway you're talking about, I want to take the

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cursor from your house, going down. Is this the causeway we're talking about right here?
A. It is.
Q. Can you explain how this will impact your access to that causeway?
A. It won't impact my access to that -- well, I couldn't reach that causeway from the water. If $I$ wish to try to get over that side, I don't think there's any way $I$ could get over there in any type of craft. I tried to take a look at it from the water because, you know, we had erosion issues there from Sandy. In Sandy it was completely under water, so we tried to take a look there, go from walking along it and also from the water to make sure I'm not losing any more soil, et cetera. My main issue though is if I want to launch, I'm lazy, if I want to launch my paddle board from there it would not -- I can't see a way that $I$ would be allowed, that $I$ could get through that area in my paddle board or my kayak or any craft.

Certainly, fishing, he's right there in my secret spot, and I think I would have difficulty fishing in my spot anymore.
Q. You had mentioned that there are some rather large rocks. Where are those rocks, if you could, in regards to this

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map?
A. If you move the cursor, let's see, move up from there just past that narrow area, there are two very large boulders right about there. You know, one bigger than the other. There's literally no way -- that shore line is very rocky, it's shallow, then it falls off to a sandier bottom.

In the area that is between the proposed farm boarder, keep in mind, it would be tough to get -- you know Perry is really good with those big barges of his, but $I$ don't know how -- I don't see how he's going to get through there.
Q. Well, you heard the testimony that they would put up the work barges on the inside of this proposed farm?
A. I've heard the testimony. Again, you know, I read the application. The application doesn't talk about any of these things. They are talking about no machinery, they are talking about no sorters, they are talking about not having the boat docked there overnight. His application doesn't mention any of those things. It doesn't mention the hours of operation either.
Q. How far, if you know, will this proposed facility if allowed be from your house?
A. My house is 151 feet from the shoreline, so you're

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talking about 200 feet. I hear -- you know, I can hear them very clearly from 240 yards away on the other side. Now we're talking 200 feet. Basically they are putting a commercial facility 200 feet from my home. I'm not aware of any regulatory rule in the state that has ever permitted that.
Q. You talked about -- you heard the testimony from Perry, and I think Madam Chair had also mentioned it as well, that Perry said he's not going to use, I believe, the water hoses or the sorters, machinery that you can hear from the other facility. You heard that testimony?
A. I did.
Q. You said you reviewed the application but you didn't see that in there, did you?
A. I did not.
Q. You mentioned something about your concerns about the hours of operation. Can you elaborate on that a little bit?
A. You know, my experience with his existing facility is, it's open all hours. You know, it's 240 yards away, but I can hear a lot of it. So I am concerned about hours of operation. It wasn't stipulated.

You know, my experience with his previous thing is -- his existing farm is it grew this small thing to

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this very large farm. It grow over its regulatory boundaries, and that was pointed out in the ESS analysis. We told the CRMC it was correct, but, you know, I'm concerned that, you know, once the farm is there, you know, if he wants to bring machinery in, if he wants to operate whenever, you know, I have very little ability to stop that. It's not in his proposal. It's in his testimony. But it seems like CRMC is a very busy agency. I'm not sure if they are in the business of enforcing these types of things once the application is approved. MR. CAPIZZO: Can I have one moment, Madam Chair?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay.
[PAUSE]
Q. Kevin, were you present when ESS conducted their site visit in June of 2018?
A. I was.

MR. CAPIZZO: For the record, this is proposed -- it has been marked as a full exhibit. This is the visualization that we were talking about, Exhibit 24.

## [EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]

Q. Kevin, are you able to see what's been labeled as ESS, waterfront properties Segar Court, existing conditions
figure?
A. Yes.
Q. Are you familiar with this picture?
A. I am, yes.
Q. Could you tell the Subcommittee how you're familiar with this picture?
A. Yeah, I was there when it was taken. That is a picture from the causeway, my causeway, looking out at a boat that is in the area proposed by Perry for his new aqua farm.
Q. The boat in the area, is that -- are you familiar with that boat?
A. Yes. That's Dave's boat.
Q. I was going to say -- you mean David Latham?
A. Yes.

MR. CAPIZZO: Bear with me one moment, please, while I cue up the other photo.
[PAUSE]
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. Kevin, do you recognize this photograph?
A. I do.
Q. For the record, it's Figure B1 view from front property Segar Court visual simulation of proposed aquaculture lease boundary. How are you familiar with this picture?

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A. Again, I was there when it was taken. It is showing the boundaries of Perry's proposed aquaculture farm.
Q. And you heard Payson's testimony earlier about how he took the GPS coordinates as it relates to this polygon shape?
A. Yes.

MR. CAPIZZO: Can I have one moment, Madam Chair?
[PAUSE]
Q. You said you had the opportunity to review the Coastal Resources file on this matter as well as Dave Beutel's staff report?
A. Yes.
Q. And the objectors' letters, you had an opportunity to look at those objectors' letters?
A. I did. I heard David's testimony --

MS. NOONAN: I'm going to object. He's going beyond the scope of the question.
A. Restate the question again.
Q. You have to wait until the Chair and legal counsel advise.

MR. DESISTO: I think the objection should be sustained.

MR. CAPIZZO: Should or should not? I'm sorry.

MR. DESISTO: Should.
Q. So Kevin, you had the opportunity to review the objection letters?
A. I did.
Q. You also had the opportunity to hear Mr. Beutel's summary of those objection letters?
A. I did.
Q. And you agree with his summation of those objection letters?

MR. DESISTO: Here is what $I$ think the issue is. You're basically asking for his opinion. As I said previously, this is a fact witness. So you either have to reframe it on that basis, but you can't be asking an opinion on this. He's not an opinion witness. He's a fact witness.

MR. CAPIZZO: I'll let the objector letters speak for themselves. I don't think I have any other questions for you, Mr. Hunt. Thank you.

MR. HUNT: Thank you, Christian.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay, Mr. Hunt, I'm going to open it up to any Subcommittee members who may have questions for you and then we'll turn it over to the Applicant's counsel for cross-examination. But first, any Subcommittee members have questions for Mr. Hunt?

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## [NO RESPONSE]

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. I don't think we have any questions for you. I think it was pretty straightforward. So I'll turn it over now to Ms. Noonan.

MS. NOONAN: My only question is if Mr. Wagner was going to be questioning this witness or not, if he would go first.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay, thank you.
Mr. Wagner, did you have any questions?
MR. WAGNER: I have no questions.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you. Back to you.
MS. NOONAN: Thanks so much.
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. NOONAN
Q. Mr. Hunt, how are you this afternoon?
A. Very good, Ms. Noonan.
Q. You indicated that you moved up here to Rhode Island in 2002, correct?
A. That's correct.
Q. And since that time have you lived here year round full-time?
A. No. I'm only on that property basically May through November. There is immediate family members who live in that house year round, and it's my own residence.
Q. So your observations that you've been talking about

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today, you're firsthand observations, are limited to the May to November timeframe of each year, correct?
A. That's right.
Q. Okay. And then in terms of your background, you said you were retired. I don't want to push too much. Was what was your background in, sir?
A. I was in the financial industry.
Q. I assume since obviously you were there at 911, not a marine biologist or an aquaculture expert or any of those things, correct, Mr. Hunt?
A. Not at all.
Q. Either am I. I rely on my experts, too.

In terms of that expert -- or in terms of testimony on that, you are aware under Rhode Island law that your rights to the shoreline only go to a certain extent, correct?
A. Yes.

MR. CAPIZZO: Objection.
MS. NOONAN: I'll rephrase.
Q. Mr. Hunt, you're aware that your rights to the water stop at the mean high water mark? Aside from being a member of the general public, you understand that, correct? MR. CAPIZZO: I would again object.

MR. DESISTO: There's an objection. He's not a
lawyer. You're actually asking for him to give a legal opinion on that one. I recommend that the objection be sustained.
Q. When you talked about everyone else's use in Segar Cove, you realize no one has exclusive use of the cove area, right?
A. Of course.
Q. In fact, you stated you have a six-acre parcel where you do have a dock on the other side of Ram's Point, right?
A. I'm not aware of anything that says because $I$ have a dock on one side I can't use the water on the other.
Q. I wasn't saying that, sir. I'm just confirming where your dock was located.
A. Yes.
Q. You indicated that at Mr. Raso's current farm you saw something on September 5th in the middle of the night with lights?
A. Yes.
Q. Are you positive that was Mr. Raso's operation in the middle of the night?
A. Not at all. I just assumed it was probably him because he is cautious about that property and the size and scope of what I saw was a big large operation when someone is sneaking out to get a couple oysters.
Q. In terms of this being, as I think you said, a commercial or a large scale manufacturing operation, you're aware that this is an aquaculture operation, right?
A. Yes.
Q. And that there is no machinery on the site when the barges are not there, correct?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. And in looking at -- one moment.
A. Well --
Q. Just hold for another question. Mr. Capizzo can ask you more if you need to.

You talked about some experimental activities by CRMC in Sycamore Cove. Can you tell me a little more about that?
A. Yeah. Paddle boarding down there a couple times as that group is in there and they are seeding oysters on that side, and they are unusual ones. I am not sure where they are from, but they are very large, diverse seeding. That area is closed off to shellfishing and fishing as well. There's a sign up going across my property all the way across the other property.
Q. And you didn't object to that, or you raised no objection to CRMC's work --
A. I could probably volunteer to help them with those
activities. I've been a big supporter of shellfishing my whole life.
Q. Understood. Did you -- you said you reviewed the -actually, strike that.

Mr. Capizzo asked you about reviewing the applications and your concerns that there was nothing in it about limits on operations, of hours of operation. Is that your testimony, Mr. Hunt?
A. It was.
Q. All right. Well, in Exhibit 1 of Plaintiff's, which is the application itself, did you review the operation plan at Number 7 where it states specifically that the hours -- let me get this here -- it specifically talks about the hours of operation within the operation plan. Did you see any of those restrictions?
A. I saw restrictions on operation during migratory birds, yeah, that was for migratory birds in a very finite period of time. Winter months, I believe.
Q. So if this application was approved, and I know you're opposed to it, I assume you would be in favor of conditions limiting the time of the operation in addition to the migratory bird time, correct?
A. Yeah. I would like to see a more formal declaration of some of the things Perry stated if it proceeds, but I

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would oppose it, obviously.
MS. NOONAN: Just a few more moments here. One second.
[PAUSE]
MS. NOONAN: I have no other questions for you, Mr. Hunt. Thank you.

MR. HUNT: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Any redirect,
Mr. Capizzo?
MR. CAPIZZO: No redirect, no.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: So moving to your next witness.

MR. CAPIZZO: Mr. Wagner has no questions; is that correct?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: He said he did not.
MR. WAGNER: No questions. Thank you.
MR. CAPIZZO: Thank you, Dave. Madam Chair, I want to make sure of the time. Are we going to 1:30 today for the first part?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Yeah. I mean, I can be flexible. I did want to take a half hour break, so it can be at 1:00, it can be at 1:30. I'm sort of open to that. Are you making a proposal?

MR. CAPIZZO: NO, I'm not. I just wanted to

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make sure I'm mindful of the time and the witness. That's all.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I don't want to interrupt a witness. So if we start a new one, I would go through your next witness fully until we took a break.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. Why don't we do that then.
Ryan, if you can cue up Alicia Cooney, please.
Alicia, can you hear and see me okay?
MS. COONEY: Yes. I can see you, but I can't see anybody else.

MR. CAPIZZO: That's okay. You want to go to the right of the screen.

MS. COONEY: I got them. Okay.
MR. CAPIZZO: I'm going to have Mr. DeSisto swear you in as a witness.

MR. DESISTO: Ms. Cooney, can you put your video back on, please, if you can. Raise your right hand.

ALICIA COONEY
Being duly sworn testifies as follows:
MR. DESISTO: Please state your name and spell it for the record.

MS. COONEY: Alicia Cooney, A-L-I-C-I-A, $\mathrm{C}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{E}-\mathrm{Y}$.

MR. Desisto: Thank you.
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. CAPIZZO
Q. Good afternoon, Alicia. How are you?
A. Fine, thanks.
Q. Good. Can you tell the Subcommittee where you own a house on Segar Cove, please?
A. Yes. We are at 95 Segar Court, which is right on Segar Cove. In fact, there's Segar Cove.
[WITNESS GESTURING]
Q. And when you say "there" you are pointing out your window?
A. I'm pointing out my window, right there.
Q. All right. Who do you reside at that address with?
A. My husband Steven Quigley, and we have two boys and two cats and a dog.
Q. Can you tell the Subcommittee your history of how you've come to Segar Cove?
A. Yes. So I have been -- I am a Rhode Island resident, although I currently work in Boston. I have been in Matunuck for every single summer of my life, all summer, and lived over the road as did my father and my grandfather. There's a ton of Cooneys in Matunuck and we always lived here. We were up across the road about a mile away for most of our summers, and my grandparents
and father were just on the other side of the pond in what we call the park of Matunuck every summer.

About 12 years ago family friends who had this property, who knew that we always wanted to be on the pond and they had a dock and we used to come and use their dock all the time, when the family retired, well, the gentleman was going to sell the property and move into assisted living. Before he put it on the market, he called us and said, you're such close friends. You always had interest in this spot, you've used our dock, would you be interested in buying the property, and we did.

That was about 12 or so years ago, about 12 or 13 years ago in this particular property, but I have been every summer in Matunuck as a resident. Frankly, as our generation is now the generation of our family that's here, our locus is Matunuck. So it's not just a summer resident.

We've had many weddings, family weddings here, even from people who live elsewhere and, sadly lately, quite a number of funerals at St. Romuald Church. Matunuck is our family connection, and that's my connection to Matunuck.
Q. What's your connection to Segar Cove over the course of
those years growing up in Matunuck?
A. It is where I learned to swim, learned to sail on a Sunfish, learned to row because we have actually had a boat and had two oars. That's the way we got around the pond. And quahog, I learned how to quahog not far from the gut, Perry's gut, the gut by Perry's restaurant. We were out here and we went to the beach at the end of Lake Avenue, and this was our pond. This was -- we swam here before we were allowed to go to the ocean because the undertow at Matunuck Beach is pretty strong so when you were a little kid you swam the pond. So I do not remember the first time I stepped foot in this pond because I was so young.
Q. How did you access the pond? You said something about Lake Avenue. Can you explain to the Subcommittee where Lake Avenue is in relation to your property?
A. If I'm looking directly -- maybe about 10 o'clock, 11:00, if I'm looking due west, but if you are familiar with where the mooring field is which is at the end of the park, which is concentrated between Lake Avenue to Park to Atlantic, so those three main paved streets that run down to the end of where that mooring part would be, which would be southwest or due south part of Segar, if that makes sense to everybody. You looked at the maps,

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I'm sure you have some kind of --
MR. CAPIZZO: Alicia, I'm actually going to pull up -- give me one second. For the record, this is Figure 1 of ESS report which $I$ think is marked as Exhibit 2.

## [EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]

Q. Alicia, are you able to see what's on the screen?
A. Yes.
Q. I'm going to go to full screen mode. I know the Subcommittee is probably aware, but just for the record, this Figure 1, your property is right where the cursor is in Segar Cove?
A. Correct.
Q. Kevin Hunt's property and your dock, current dock, is that listed as Number 1; is that right?
A. Right.
Q. Let's see. The area that you're talking about, Lake Ave, is where? You said to the southern part of the cove?
A. Right. If you look at the line that $I$ think is the dotted line that suggests is the mooring field. You see the dotted lines you have outlining. If you move your cursor up right, yeah, like right about there.
Q. This is Lake Ave right here?
A. Um, no, no, next one over.
Q. North or south?
A. North.
Q. So up this way?
A. Yeah, yeah, there you go. It's pretty overgrown, but you can bring in -- there's a boat ramp there. You can bring in a boat there. You'll see if you go to the end of that, that's where it is. All the people that live in that area to the west which I'm calling the park, if you go to the end of Lake Avenue, whether you are driving down getting to the pond or coming up from the cove you will see piles of kayaks and paddle boards from all the people who do not necessarily have a place on the pond, but that's their day access. So you would leave your kayak there all summer, or your rowboat, and pick it up and throw it in the water and use it.
Q. Are you familiar with the other access points other than Lake Ave in that area?
A. To take on a boat, to take a boat?
Q. To access the cove, whether putting a boat in or accessing it for kayak, paddle board, rowboat.
A. Oh, sure. We used to take it down and take it to the bottom of park. If you had a bigger boat you'd go down to the point, come in on water. I know them all.
Q. Okay. Are they reflected in this aerial photograph?
A. If you were on the cursor -- if you look to the south of Dock 10, right, you would see -- you go east from that spot you see. There are kayaks. You can bring your kayaks in there. It's a little tricky at the bottom of Atlantic, but it can be done. What's not on this map is if you went all the way down to Matunuck Point, end of Prospect, there is another boat ramp that is very convenient if you had a trailer and a bigger boat.
Q. Okay. When you were growing up --
A. And the reason why I know that is, I have kayaked every square foot of that cove many, many times for, you know, more years than $I$ want to admit.
Q. And the types of activities, recreational activities, I think you talked about some of them from growing up on the cove. I want to bring you forward to more recently. Have you had the opportunity from your property and from the cove to observe what types of activities take place on the cove?
A. Absolutely. It is a combination of activities. So you have the kayakers like my self, the paddle boarders like my son, the small sailboats, you know, boaters which is very interesting because the wind is very fickle here. It's fun but tricky to sail in that property, in that whole area. You've got people who are coming in by
either land or boat to quahog, to dock their boats and just put on like those day rafts off the back of the boats and jump in the water and hang out and have their lunch or whatever.

And then you've got the folks that are on motorboats either just cruising around or motorboats either with -not so much waterskiers these days, but wake boarders which is what my kids like and, you know, rafts, where you just tow people around in the rafts. And you've got people, our kids, actually who just jump off our dock and swim. So it's any combination of those at any given time and the jet skiers as well.

In fact, there was more jet skiing activity this summer than I've seen in quite some time. So that has been a newer thing that we see on the pond. It's all of it.
Q. And do you have a powerboat at the dock at your property that you and your family use?
A. Yes.
Q. We talked about the recreational activities that take place in Segar Cove. Are you familiar with Potter Pond as a whole?
A. Absolutely.
Q. How are you familiar? Why don't you tell the

Subcommittee, and I know you already touched on it, how you're familiar with the rest of Potter Pond.
A. Well, couple of ways. One is that I personally will take a several-hour kayak and cover the entire pond by kayak all the way up to Route 1 up by the docks that are closest to Route 1. I guess I never called it Skiers Cove, but we used to call it the North Cove, up to the North Cove.

An then on the powerboat, my husband and kids and I would be inclined to, you know, go up there all the way up and cruise around and see what's going on and look at the North Cove to see whether it's busy enough to do the ramp, do the rafting. Sometimes we would go up there and use it, or sometimes we would say it's too crowded up there and we'll go back and we'll stay at our cove.

So, yes, the whole area including, I will tell you, going through the gut over to Point Judith Pond. I could take you through Point Judith Pond too.
Q. Let's focus on Potter Pond. I want to share my screen with you and I think I showed the same one to Kevin.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. Can you see Figure 1B, ESS Group?
A. Yes.
Q. I want to take a step back. You've been in attendance
and listened to all the testimony from November 12th, 13th, 17th as well as today?
A. Correct.
Q. You reviewed Mr. Beutel's report in the Coastal Resources file that's been referred to?
A. Correct.
Q. You've reviewed ESS's report as well?
A. Yes.
Q. I want to take you to the area where -- are you familiar with Perry's current operations?
A. Absolutely.
Q. Can you tell us how you're familiar with his current operations?
A. Well, I've kayaked all over there before there was an oyster farm there and have kayaked around over it originally, and now only around it because it's -contrary to other people's opinions about kayaking within an oyster farm, I have not -- somehow I don't feel like I could get past the buoys and I'm not comfortable going there so I've gone around it, the circumference of it, often.
Q. Okay. How would you describe the area around Mr. Raso's current operation in regards to the type of recreational activity that takes place in this general area of Potter

Pond around his operation and in Sycamore Cove which you heard Kevin testify to?
A. Right. Well, in my opinion, the three quarters or three I guess $I$ should say three sides of that rectangle, the southwest, the east, the northeast, you know, the three that are farther away from where I would be coming from, from my house are quite shallow. I mean, I can't imagine -- you couldn't get a powerboat in there. You might not want to get a sailboat in there. You certainly could kayak or paddle board in there, but it's too shallow for any motorized activity in my point of view. And on the side that is closer to the northwest, it seems a little bit more open, but even $I$ with my kayak, I don't go too, too close, but three sides of it you couldn't go on with a motorized water vehicle of any variety.
Q. And you talked about kayaking, and you said that you -are you able to kayak over that operation?
A. No. You haven't been able to in years. I'm not exactly sure. I only became quite focused on the topic of oyster farms in the last three years, but it has grown over the years from being when you could kayak over it to now where you cannot kayak over it.
Q. Okay. Did you testify that you previously did kayak over his operations?
A. Yes, I was fascinated. I'm sorry, maybe I shouldn't have been trespassing but...
Q. Well, you heard the testimony that you can kayak and paddle board over Perry's operation, is that correct, over the farm that he's proposing?
A. What I heard people say is that you could go down the lanes within the farm, and $I$ would suggest that that is not possible. Unless you are extremely adept in a very small narrow kayak with very, very good positioning of your paddle, $I$ don't think it is safe or wise to do that. I would feel like I would get caught. I'd wreck an oyster, you know, the wiring. I just don't see how one could do it frankly in all honesty. And if $I$ had the opportunity and it was 75 degrees and a gorgeous day today and I was going there now I wouldn't do it for my own safety.
Q. What about -- have you paddle boarded before in that area, Alicia?
A. Nowhere near because if I fall off -- my sons have. Not me. My sons have. And they've never gone over, gone -you know, they go around it, but they won't go anywhere in that thing. They wouldn't try, believe me.
Q. I want to take you north that you talked about, the northern basin, and you've heard the testimony about the
northern basin and that there's two deep water areas within Potter Pond. So can you describe the type of -strike that.

Are you familiar with following the cursor going north up Potter Pond? Are you familiar with the area just before the northern basin?
A. Yes.
Q. Can you describe for the Subcommittee what that area is like?
A. Um, well, it's -- I would characterize it as sort of channels in the sense that most people are using those areas. It's fairly deep. You can get in there with a motor boat. There are a number of places, however, where you have to be very careful because as you can see from the shadowing on the water there's some places where it's rock deep or all of a sudden it's shallow and then it gets deep again. And most people in that space are not hanging out the way that they are in either of the coves. They are using those channels, is the best way I would use to get from one point to the other if that makes sense to you.
Q. So is there -- we heard about towed water sports, sailing, wakeboarding. Can do you that in this area? MS. NOONAN: Objection. Which area? Are you
still on the northern cove?
MR. CAPIZZO: Yes. I'm sorry, Beth.
Q. The area we're talking about right now, Alicia, where we are talking about where the channels are just before the northern --
A. Yes, yes. So what I'm describing is -- no, what people do is -- I have never seen anybody wakeboarding in that area. What I have seen is people slowly, you know, going up in their motorboat or sometimes not so slowly, depending on whether they have a tow or raft behind, going to the northern basin to use it. And then you know, then you get -- you throw your raft in the water or you throw your waterskis or your wakeboard in the water and you use the northern basin, or you couldn't in and go back down. The best word I could use, which is probably not a technical term, is it seems more of a channel.
Q. Okay. Then you talked about the northern basin where you're familiar with the northern basin?
A. Yes.
Q. How would you describe the northern basin?
A. It is -- it's conducive to using your motorized vehicles and water vehicles, and it's also very conducive to, you know, anything else whether it's -- I never sailed up there actually, but I certainly kayaked up there. My
sons have paddle boarded all the way up there and there are a number of people, particularly in the southwest corner of that northern basin, that drop anchor and swim in that corner a bit away from where people would use the circle, sort of natural circle, to do various water activities whether it's waterskiing or rafting or whatever.

Then in the very far northern basin above that, which you can only access without a motorized vehicle, and that's the blue line that goes up to Route 1, people spend a lot of time going up there through that northern basin where the motorboats are in order to get up there to kayak. There's a lot of nice natural habitat animals and birds up there.
Q. I want to just take you a step back. You referenced that the southern part of the northern basin is where the cursor is. Is this where you're talking about, this area right here?
A. Yes.
Q. You described that area as where people would raft, anchor or raft; is that correct?
A. Yes. People come in, and these wouldn't necessarily be residents of, you know, the circumference of the pond. These people would be coming in from elsewhere, day

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people, day recreationers, come and they drop anchor, they put up their raft, eat their lunch, they swim around and enjoy themselves.
Q. And the waterskiing that you referred to, that takes place in this general area right here where I'm circling the cursor; is that correct?
A. Correct.
Q. I want to draw your attention -- we're going to head back to Potter Pond back to Segar Cove. I want to talk to you about -- you talked about your observations about the recreational activity at Segar Cove. We talked about different types of water dependent activities and using a motorboat, kayaking, paddle boarding, sailboat. Have you observed any people shellfishing or fishing from your property or from recreating on the cove?
A. Sorry. What did you ask, was it fishing?
Q. Fishing or shellfishing in Segar Cove.
A. Yes. The fishing seems to be -- and I think it may be dependent on how fish run. I know one of my cousins often uses my dock and he kayaks where he fishes off the kayak. It comes and goes. And certain days it seems they must call each other and say, is fish running and there's a lots of people out on kayaks or very, very small motorboats fishing actually quite close to our end
of the cove.
Where you see a tremendous, two very good spots, for shellfishing or really right where the proposed oyster farm is between Mr. Hunt's, Kevin Hunt's, property and right at that point, and then just across, right across the way by Mr. Wilke's dock. And these are folks that are coming from elsewhere and usually coming in a tiny motorboat anchoring the boat and getting out with the rakes and their feet and quahogging.
Q. Okay. Are you familiar with Perry's current proposed farm, the configuration of that farm?
A. Yes. As a matter of fact, $I$ can look at it right now out my window.
Q. Okay. But are you -- you heard the testimony and reviewed the documents as it relates to Option $A$, which is more rectangular, and $B$ which is a polygon?
A. Yes, because the buoys obviously also are demarking it.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. I want to share 4B.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. Alicia, can you see that?
A. Yes.
Q. Are you familiar with this map?
A. Absolutely.
Q. Okay. If you could describe for the Subcommittee,
similar to what you just did for the northern basin of how your observations are of how the activity takes play on that cove, let's start with the vessel activity I guess you could say. So let's start with towed water sports. Where does that take place on the cove based on your observations?
A. There's really only one place that towed water sports can have enough room and they do have enough room, and it would run from east to west at the widest part of the cove going from -- if I'm looking at this map, on the widest part would be right north of the label, Segar Cove, going from the west side directly east across to where the proposed oyster farm would be. So this is a circle naturally. It's a natural circle that one would take with your towed motor sports. So there's -- all the red is, you can't go down there. Either there's docks, there's a no wake zone or there's moorings.
Q. When you say you can't go down there, you're talking about further south towards the mooring field?
A. Yes. All of that is off the table in terms of towed water sports. It's where the green -- the bulk of the green line is where the label says Segar Cove. In that natural, it looks to me like a natural circle, and that's where it is.
Q. What type of -- strike that.

Have you had the opportunity to observe the activity that takes place where the proposed farm is or where Perry is proposing to put the farm?
A. Absolutely.
Q. Can you tell us what observations you've made about the type of activity that takes place based on those observations?
A. Yes. So what you would do is you'd have, you know, a couple motorboats with waterskiers or wake boarders or rafters going around kind of taking turns, and then you would have me hugging the cove -- hugging the side to avoid the motorboats. And not so much the motorboats themselves, but the raft, the waterskier, or the wake from them.

So that would be me right within the perimeter of the proposed oyster farm. And then you'd have one or more folks, other paddle boarders, or other kayaks out there and someone who would be frankly on Kevin Hunt's shore just south of the southern point of the proposed oyster farm that would be doing their quahogging. That would be a typical scenario.
Q. When you talked about the northern basin and you talked about boats anchoring or rafting, where does that take
place based on your observations in the cove?
A. The most typical place is right from about where it says six-foot -- along the perimeter of the proposed oyster farm where it says five or six-foot depth.
Q. Right here where the cursor is?
A. No. They would be more south along Kevin Hunt's property like right -- I'm pointing with my own finger just south of where you are, so the bottom third of the proposed farm. Because, you see, I think what happens is people come from elsewhere and they swing around the point into the cove and they like it right there.
Q. Alicia, how would you describe the area? You heard Kevin testify about the shoreline along his property. How would you describe the shoreline along your property in the area where the cursor is right now? So the northern portion of that farm area.
A. It is -- the shoreline itself is, you know, it's indigenous vegetation towards almost to the shoreline. Then there is a small amount of space that you could actually walk. We've actually, you know, made a path. Our dog goes down there frankly. Then there's some rocks. It's actually quite shallow. I can kayak in there but it is tough. You certainly couldn't go in there with a motorboat.
Q. Okay.
A. You know, in between the yellow line and my shore. MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. Alicia, I, want to direct your attention -- I want to share my screen. For the record this is Exhibit -- maybe it's Exhibit 5. Hold on. [PAUSE]

MR. CAPIZZO: Exhibit 5.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. Are you able to see what's on the screen?
A. Yes.

MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, are you able to see what's on the screen?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I am.
Q. Alicia, are you familiar with this photograph?
A. Absolutely.
Q. Can you tell the Subcommittee how you're familiar with this photograph?
A. It's either one I took or my husband took. It would have been July or August of 2019 .
Q. If you could describe for the Subcommittee members where you were when this photograph was taken?
A. I would have been in my kayak slightly outside of the proposed -- more in the middle of the pond, sort of outside of the proposed oyster farm and, you know, took
pictures of activity. It was probably between four and six in the afternoon, as $I$ recall, but $I$ was on the water on the other side, you know, probably kind of about in the middle of the pond.
Q. Okay.
A. You could see the wake.
Q. Can you describe in the background of this photograph, can you explain to the Subcommittee members what we're looking at?
A. Well, just to the powerboat on the left is my house, and our backyard is facing the pond. And then there's vegetation which looks quite thick, but is not quite as thick as you realize. It's -- bushes and whatever and where we go down. And then the shoreline that you see just below that is our shoreline property. Probably goes to about where the waterskier is in the blue jacket.

Right after that, to the right of that, would be the Hunts' property including his road to his driveway to his house, and I'm just -- you can see the various -- I actually wondering if the very, very far corner, I guess that's an exposed rock, you see the exposed rock.
Q. Where the cursor is right now?
A. Yeah, so the tide must have been a little low.
Q. You heard Mr. Hunt testify about a rock in that area?
A. Oh, there's a lot of rocks in that area.
Q. All right. Is this a fair and accurate representation of what you observed, activity that you observed, on Segar Cove in that July 2019, August 2019?
A. Yes, a very typical day.
Q. I want to show you a second photograph. Can you tell us where this photograph was taken from?
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
MS. NOONAN: I'm sorry. What numbers are these and are they numbered within the document?

MR. CAPIZZO: They aren't, Beth. They should be in order, though, one after the other within the exhibit.

MS. NOONAN: Okay, thanks.
MR. CAPIZZO: All right. Do you need a sec to grab it?

MS. NOONAN: No problem. I'll find it. That's all right.
Q. Alicia, can you tell us, do you recognize this photograph?
A. Yes.
Q. How were you able to do that?
A. Okay. This is another photography that I took from my backyard.
Q. What are we -- explain to the Subcommittee what we're looking at.
A. We're looking at due south with some more water activity on the pond. This would be -- that boat is heading directly towards the proposed oyster farm. The houses on the other side are, you know, which one would characterize I guess as -- I never knew the name of it growing up, but I guess Gardener Island. If you see the mooring field to the right, in the upper right-hand corner of the photograph, and that would be I think the dock on that far right is the last house on Atlantic Avenue.
Q. You testified earlier the general area for towed water sports, is this the area that you're referring to within the photograph where that boat is?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. Is this a fair and accurate representation of what you observed? Do you recall when this was taken?
A. It was either July or August of '19.
Q. Okay. Is it a fair and accurate representation of what you observed that day?
A. Yes.
Q. Photograph Number 3, again, is this the same -- let me take you a step back.

The series of photographs, are you able to recognize this photograph, Alicia?
A. Yes. This would be one of the series. What would have been better is to take a video, and then you would have seen it, but $I$ took a bunch of pictures together.
Q. But correct me if I'm wrong, it's the same boat that appears in the previous picture that we just showed?
A. I am -- I think so. I couldn't swear whether it wasn't another boat, but it looks like it's a second boat. There is a lot of boats out there so it's hard to know if it was exactly the same one. There were probably a bunch of boats out there that day.
Q. Okay. But this is again a fair and accurate representation of July 2019, August 2019 time frame of activity on the cove?
A. Yes.
Q. Again, you can see the mooring field to the south; is that correct?
A. Correct.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. I show you the next photograph. Do you recognize this photograph?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay, and how are you able to recognize this photograph?
A. It's another photography took on another day within the same month while $I$ was out on the water kayaking.
Q. Okay. And drawing your attention to the background, I know it's probably obvious to the Subcommittee members, but for the record can you explain to the Subcommittee members what's in the background of this photograph on the shore?
A. Right. So that's our house just above the water spray and the wake. Again, sort of our property going down to the shoreline, and then to the right of the motorboat would be above the property line between our property and Mr. Hunt, Kevin Hunt's property.
Q. Okay.
A. And the osprey. See the ospreys?
Q. You heard Kevin testify about the osprey nest. Is that the osprey nest he was talking about?
A. Yes. That osprey nest, I think there's one on the other too. The osprey nest was busy all summer. I didn't think they would ever fly out of there.
Q. You said you're familiar with the location of Mr. Raso's proposed aquaculture farm. Where would that be in this photograph?
A. I'm actually surprised that you can't see the buoys because we're looking directory at it. Probably from
stretching to -- certainly the wake behind the person to, you know, to the right of the osprey nest for sure. That whole, that whole space.
Q. Do you know those people on that boat?
A. I'm not sure.
Q. Okay. Is this a fair and accurate representation of what you observed on that day, that activity taking place on Segar Cove?
A. Absolutely.

## [EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]

Q. Showing you another photograph, Alicia, do you recognize that photograph?
A. Yes.
Q. How are you able to recognize this photograph?
A. Again, $I$ was out trying to -- it's hard to take pictures, especially when you're me kayaking, but there it is.
Q. When was this taken?
A. Again, either a bunch of pictures I took in July or a bunch of pictures I took in August, 2019.
Q. Just to get orientation of where this picture is, what this picture is looking at, what are we looking out to? You're in Segar Cove. Where are we looking out to?
A. You're looking out on due south at six houses just behind the boat that would be on $I$ guess it's called Ocean

Avenue, but it's the point. It's the end of Matunuck Point. Prior to the ' 38 hurricane there were houses on the other side of that.
Q. Okay. Is it fair to say this is -- we heard testimony about Ram's Point and Gardener -- I guess Gardener Island?
A. Right.
Q. Is this the way to see Segar Cove, that area that I'm circling?
A. Yes. That is the one access point that is just a little bit wider than where that boat and the wake is.
Q. Then you see the Lathams' house on the right at the end of the island, this right here?
A. Yes, and then you see another boater.
Q. Right here?
A. Hanging out over on the right, yes.
Q. Okay. Again, is this a fair and accurate representation that you observed in July, August, 2019?
A. Yes.
Q. I'm asking you the same line of questioning. Do you recognize the photograph?
A. Yes, a series from the prior photograph.
Q. Is this a fair and accurate representation of what you observed on Segar Cove?
A. Yes.
Q. Again, we're looking at the entryway of Segar Cove; is that correct?
A. Yes. The boat is about to cross onto the proposed oyster farm.
Q. I think this might be the last -- do you recognize this photograph, Alicia?
A. Yes.
Q. If you could for the record, can you describe what we're looking at?
A. So we are looking at Mr. Hunt's house on the left. We're looking just over the motorboat. Behind the motorboat is the access to Segar Cove. I'm not exactly sure, there's something in the water that's right in front house on the left, and it's either a buoy or a lobster buoy or something, something in the pond.
Q. But it's a fair and accurate representation of the activity you observed on Segar Cove?
A. Correct.
Q. That would be in the July/August 2019 time frame?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay.

MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, I just ask that Exhibit 5 be marked, the series of photographs Exhibit 5
be marked as a full exhibit.
MS. NOONAN: No objection.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Admitted full.
[EXHIBIT \#5 MARKED FULL]
Q. Alicia, what concerns do you have about the proposed location of Perry's farm?
A. The proposed location is absolutely taking for the purpose of one individual a critical space in our pond that is currently shared by multiple individuals, over the course of the summer hundreds of individuals, versus just one for an industrial farm. You know, an industrial activity and a farm that would restrict the use of that absolutely critical space given the geography of that cove and make it not as useful for the rest of the people using the pond for recreation or for other people who were quahogging or fishing for their own purposes, and it will be very unsafe and in the way, in the critical spot of the cove.

So that is my objection. I think that there should be a real balance here. He has a terrific farm already in a spot that cannot be shared by as many of the recreators where we are. I actually think it looks like there's room to expand over there, particularly towards East Matunuck State Beach where it's shallow and nobody

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can get over there. Oysters would probably love it there. But where we are, I can't kayak over that farm. I'm not kayaking through lanes. You know, and I'm not the only one. I take my dog with me. The dog jumps off, swims around, gets back in the kayak, gets back on the paddle board. He can't go over there. He's going to get caught. He's going to hurt himself. It is just completely imbalance in terms of the multiple use that the waters are meant to be for everybody.

I'm opposed to this, as is the rest of our family, because it seems that it's segregating for the purposes of one commercial activity versus all of us in balance.

I am not against Perry. I'm a huge fan of the greens with the goat cheese salad with the fried oysters on top, the lobster roll with fries, and my husband loves your clam chowder. That's our standing takeout order all through Covid.

We admire everything that has happened for the restaurant. It is so wonderful that you have built the farm and built the restaurant. That seagull joint that was there before you opened the restaurant was never successful. So I have no objection to that.

The objection is the location of this proposed farm in one of the really only the two areas that the whole

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public, and not just the residents on the pond, frankly, not just the dock owners on the pond, but all the people who come in through the gut with their motorboats on a day trip. It's for the public. Not just the homeowners, not just the oyster farmer. The public.

If you took a poll of all the people using the pond on an average basis, it's not the dock owners only. It's not just Kevin, myself, and the Lathams and my Cooney cousins on the other side. It's the people that are coming in on the water, or they are walking down from the park and bringing their kayaks that they've left on the side and gotten in. It's the people that are taking the little motorboats through the gut, past Perry's restaurant to quahog or to drop a line and just cruise around, bring their sandwiches, bring their kids. It's for the public.

And that's my objection. That it's not the balance. There's no imbalance when we have a swarf of this critical geographic space, given the interesting configuration of our cove and have that oyster farm right there. So in sum, that would be my objection.
Q. Thank you, Alicia.

MR. CAPIZZO: One moment, Madam Chair.
[PAUSE]

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MR. CAPIZZO: I don't have any other questions. Thank you, Alicia.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, Christian. Any questions for Ms. Cooney from the Subcommittee members? Okay, Mr. Murray.

MR. MURRAY: Good afternoon, Ms. Cooney. I just have one question. Would you characterize towed motor sports as water sports as the most predominant motorized usage of the cove?

MS. COONEY: The majority, yes. There are other motorboats where people drop anchor or would be going from one location to the other. And as I mentioned, more recently, jet skis.

MR. MURRAY: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Is that all, Mr. Murray?

MR. MURRAY: Yes.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Any other questions from Subcommittee members?
[NO RESPONSE]
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Any questions,
Mr. Wagner, that you have of this witness?
MR. WAGNER: No, Madam Chair. Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you. Okay,

Ms. Noonan?
MS. NOONAN: I have a few. I switched my audio. Can everyone hear me okay?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Yes.
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. NOONAN
Q. Ms. Cooney, how are you?
A. I'm fine thanks, Ms. Noonan. How are you?
Q. I'm well, thank you. Appreciate the fact that your family has been around the Matunuck area for a long time, and I'm sure it's been great for your family. I also appreciate your comments about Mr. Raso and his business. So thank you for that.

Were you aware though that Mr. Perry had tried to expand his existing farm, but he was not allowed to due to the presence of the eelgrass?
A. I have read the reports.
Q. This is about his existing farm. He tried to expand that as you discussed and he wasn't able to do that. I didn't know if you were aware of that.
A. It's been discussed, yes, to the northwest.
Q. On the photographs that are Exhibit 5, you took those from your kayak, right?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. Was your dog with you that day? Because that
would have been a real challenge for you.
A. Um, one of the days he was and one of the days he wasn't.
Q. That was my question. Were those all done on the same day or different days?
A. Different days.
Q. How many different days?
A. I would have to check in my files, but $I$ believe four.
Q. Okay. So Exhibit 5 consisted of seven photos total that I have. Christian can correct me if I'm wrong, but I'm looking at your Exhibit 5 opened up to a power point and there are several different photos there.

It's your testimony that those took place on approximately four different days in July or August of 2019; is that fair to say?
A. I would have to check. I know there are several days and they were all in July or August of 2019.
Q. That's fair. Thank you. When you talked about your use of the your property, let's say, and some of the exhibits that Mr. Capizzo had shown you, in your sort of northern part of Segar Cove is there any towed water sports going on up there?
A. Not really, no. You can -- what you could do is you could go up there and cruise around in your boat when it's our turn, but you know, maybe take a rest, relax.

But if you are going to go in the circle, that you tend to like to go in, that my kids like to go in, they would drive their motorboat up there, our motorboat, or our son would, but they wouldn't be actively on the back of a waterski.
Q. And your dock that you have on your property, you or your kids or maybe grand kids at some point can still jump off and swim off your dock, right?
A. Yes.
Q. That won't be impacted by this farm?
A. The only way it would be impacted is if it pushes a bunch of other activity up there such that you would have to be careful from being in the water.
Q. Sure, but in terms of towed sports which you just told Mr. Murray is sort of one of the predominant activities, they are not going up into the northern part because of size, I presume, as well as those sort of buffers where they are not supposed to bring a towed sport within 200 feet of stationary objects. Right?
A. There are motorized vehicles that are going past us all the time. So you have motorized vehicles without a tow, and you have the jet skis which, you know, one really has to be quite careful of.
Q. Do the jet skis go on the northern part of Segar Cove?
A. Sure.
[ZOOM INTERFERENCE]
Q. What I was talking about were the exhibits from the ESS report that Christian had shown you and the northern part of the Segar Cove near your property it was showing those 200-foot boundaries where towed water sports and jet skiers aren't supposed to go within 200 feet of the shoreline or stationary objects, right?
A. It would be helpful for me if you showed me that exhibit again, please.

MS. NOONAN: Sure. Why don't we use 4B. And Leslie, can you pop up -- sorry about that if I jumped that at you, one of the exhibits from Christian's report.

MS. PARKER: Yes. I just need permission to share my screen.

MS. NOONAN: Ryan, can you --
MR. MOORE: You should be all set, Leslie.
MR. CAPIZZO: I have an objection for the
record. She can certainly testify as to her
observations, but any testimony as it relates to the coordinates and whether jet skiers are complying with the 200-foot buffer is outside of her fact knowledge as a witness.

MS. NOONAN: She testified that she observed.

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I'm looking at what she observed out there I guess, so that's what I'll stick to.

MR. DESISTO: Excuse me, Ms. Noonan. That's correct. All the question can be confined to is the observation as to the 200 feet.

MS. NOONAN: All right.
Q. So Ms. Cooney, can you see on your screen now what is Figure 4B from the ESS report? Do you see that?
A. $\mathrm{Mmm}-\mathrm{hmm}$.
Q. And you're up there, you know, Leslie with the cursor up there towards above the farm area. That cursor is on your house, right, or property?
A. Correct.
Q. Okay. And then what I'm trying to see is in the northern part of Segar Cove you said that generally people don't do towed sports whether it's waterskiing or water boarding up in that area, correct?
A. Correct --
Q. -- and then my question was -- right, right. I'm not disagreeing. Just asking. You spend more time there than I do.

My question is, though, in terms of jet skis, which are called personal watercrafts under the town's ordinances, do jet skis go out to the northern part of
the cove?
A. If you have a dock at the northern cove and you have a jet ski, or you're dropping somebody off at the dock, you'd have to get there.
Q. Simple question. Do people use jet skis in the northern part of Segar Cove?
A. I have seen jet skis up there.
Q. Okay. Thank you.

MS. NOONAN: Thank you, Leslie. I'm done with that picture.
Q. One of the things you talked about at the beginning was your history and your family's history in Matunuck and the Segar Cove area. I'm going to try to repeat that back what you said generally.

You talked about a combination of activities. Do you recall that testimony?
A. If you would like to refresh me, that would be helpful.
Q. You said there were a combination of activities. From what I was able to jot down you said kayak, paddle board, small sailboats, fickle wind but small sailboats, motorboats, tubers or wakeboards, you said your sons do that, and kids jump off the dock and jet skiers. Those are all uses, combination of activities that you described when you first started your testimony.
summarize that fairly?
A. I think you missed quahoggers and fishers.
Q. You're right. I'm just talking about people on the water at this point. But yes, $I$ understand quahoggers and fishers. In these combination of activities, though, is it fair to say --
A. Excuse me, excuse me, the fishermen are on the water.
Q. They are using boats, right? I'm trying to get to the activities on the water. They are necessarily in boats or kayaks, right?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay, or they are very tall standing in the water, but okay, boats or kayaks.
A. Excuse me. The quahoggers are actually in the water.
Q. That $I$ know, right. I'm not talking about the quahoggers. That's why I didn't include them.
A. I see.
Q. What I want to say is that you've been there for, and I won't ask you to state your age, but you've been out on Segar Cove for a long time and your family has been also, right?
A. Correct.
Q. And so each time that there's been a dock added in the time you've been there, that has restricted the area of
the cove a little more, hasn't it?
MR. CAPIZZO: I would object to that, to that question.

MR. DESISTO: On what basis?
MR. CAPIZZO: Beyond the scope of her expertise. She's a fact witness. She can testify whether it was --

MR. DESISTO: Well, here is the thing. The way I hear the question is, and of course Ms. Cooney did testify a length of time that she had experience with the water body, so the question is really designed for the facts of what the use was to the current use. I don't think that's an opinion. I do think that's fact based on her experience which she already laid the foundation for.

I recommend that the objection be overruled.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I agree. I think it's a fair question based on prior testimony.
A. Can you repeat the question?
Q. Yes.

MS. NOONAN: I'll ask Ms. Reis if you can repeat that question, please.
[THE RECORD WAS READ BY THE COURT REPORTER]
A. I would have to give that some thought because in the number of years that $I$ have been here, and frankly when I

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was much younger, I wasn't counting docks. And I could not be able to tell you the course, the period of time, how many docks there were, how many docks have been added per year, how many docks have been removed. We had a dock here at our house that fell apart before the other dock was put in, so $I$ wouldn't be able to give you a specific answer to that.

What I would tell you is that the activity on the pond, on the cove, over the course of this time has increased steadily. And how the docks do or do not restrict activity, I don't have enough specific information to provide you with that.
Q. That's entirely fair. Thank you. Just a ballpark, if you can, the time if you can from when you saw this activity steadily increasing, do you want to give me a time frame that you're comfortable with?
A. 63 years.
Q. I ask you generally the same of the mooring field that's at the southern part of the Segar Cove that Mr. Capizzo questioned you about or you discussed that area. Was that mooring field in place, the same size, in that entire 63 years that you've been on Segar Cove? MR. CAPIZZO: I think we may have lost her. MS. NOONAN: Her video is gone.

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MR. CAPIZZO: I don't see her.
MS. NOONAN: Ms. Cooney, are you still with us there?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Christian, do you have the ability to text her to see what's going on?

MR. CAPIZZO: Let me se. I'll send her an email. Madam Chair, she dialed back in. I think she's waiting in the lobby area so if Ryan could let her in. CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Moore, did you get that?

MR. MOORE: Did she call in by phone?
MR. CAPIZZO: I don't know. I think she said she did it via Zoom.

MR. MOORE: What was her full name?
MR. CAPIZZO: Alicia Cooney.
MR. MOORE: Okay.
MS. CAPIZZO: It just popped up as Alicia.
MR. MOORE: She should be coming in now.
MR. CAPIZZO: Great. Thank you, Ryan.
MS. COONEY: I'm so sorry. My computer died.
I'm on my phone. Does this work?
MR. CAPIZZO: Yes.
MS. COONEY: Sorry about that.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: No problem. Ms. Noonan?

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MS. COONEY: Ms. Noonan, I did not do that on purpose. I promise you. But I do need to have the question repeated.

MR. CAPIZZO: Beth, you're on mute.
MS. NOONAN: Thanks. Lisa, can you read back the last question?
[THE RECORD WAS READ BY THE COURT REPORTER]
MS. COONEY: Thank you for reminding me. Again, I'm so sorry. I did not do that on purpose.

MS. NOONAN: Not a problem.
A. You know, I don't know. I mean, when you're ten years old and you're out fooling around in a sail fish and trying to see what cute guy was on the other boat, you're not counting moorings. There have always been moorings there. Whether it has been -- I would say the perimeter has been approximately the same. What the number of moorings is, $I$ wouldn't really know, but it's always been --
Q. The mooring field has always been there, right?
A. Yeah.
Q. Okay.
A. The right person to ask this question is the harbormaster, obviously, because he knows. He knows every mooring, every number and who is using it.

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MS. NOONAN: Thank you, Ms. Cooney. I'm glad you got back into our meeting, but I'm all done with my questions. Thank you.

MS. COONEY: Thank you very much.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, Ms. Noonan.
Is there any redirect, Mr. Capizzo?
MR. CAPIZZO: No, Madam Chair. No redirect.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. So I think we should take that half hour break and come back here at 2:30.

Do you have one more witness, Mr. Capizzo?
MR. CAPIZZO: That's correct.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: All right. So anything before we break?

MR. CAPIZZO: I don't think so. Beth?
MS. NOONAN: No.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. We'll sign back on at 2:30. Thank you.
[RECESS WAS TAKEN OFF THE RECORD FROM 2:00 TO 2:40]
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I think that we are ready to resume at $2: 37$. Mr. Capizzo, you were going to call your final witness, and I think we just need Mr. Latham sworn.

MR. CAPIZZO: That's correct, Madam Chair.

Thank you.
MR. DESISTO: Mr. Latham, please raise your right hand. DAVID LATHAM,

Being duly sworn testifies as follows:
MR. DESISTO: Please state your name and spell it for the record.

MR. LATHAM: David Latham, L-A-T-H-A-M.
MR. DESISTO: Thank you.
MR. CAPIZZO: Thank you, Mr. DeSisto.
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. CAPIZZO
Q. Hey, David. How are you today?
A. I'm doing dandy.
Q. Can you tell the Subcommittee how you're familiar with Segar Cove?
A. Well, my grandparents when they retired, they've been summering down in Rhode Island Carpenters. They both lived and worked in Providence. When they retired, they built a house in 1968 at the end of Prospect Road, and I started spending my summers there around 1970. So a couple years after they built the house, me and my four brothers and sisters, and turned out and later additional half brothers and sisters spent every summer there since then.
Q. Can you for the Subcommittee and for the record give the address of that property?
A. Yes, it's 298 Prospect Road.
Q. I'm going to share with you Figure 1 for the record so we can identify that on the map. This is part of the ESS's report.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. David, are you able to see what's on screen?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. We're looking at, for the record, Segar Cove dock mooring area in South Kingstown, Rhode Island, Figure 1. And Prospect Road, is this part where the cursor is right now the south of Segar Cove? Is this Prospect Road right here?
A. Yes, it is.
Q. Okay. Where is your house?
A. At the extreme northern tip of Palmer Island, so right there.
Q. So I've heard this referred to as a couple different names. I've heard Palmer Avenue, Gardener Island, I think Alicia 4referred to it as something else. What did you know it as?
A. You know, it's a little bit like South County. There's no such thing as South County, but people call it South

County. I've heard it a Palmer Island, I heard it as Gardener Island. I don't know why, where that came from. We always just called it Nana and Bud's house.
Q. Okay. How long have you been recreating in Segar Cove for that -- well, let's start with Segar Cove?
A. Since 19 -- about 1970 .
Q. What about the rest of Potter Pond, the same?
A. The same, yeah. Every year we got a little bit more knowledge of the pond as we got older, and our parents would let us leave the cove. In a little green boat we would go out, we would go exploring. So I'm well familiar with mostly every inch of the Potter Pond right now and Segar Cove.
Q. Just, again, for the cursor and for the Subcommittee, I'm going to stop sharing in one sec, but this is your property right here?
A. That's correct, and that dock at the extreme northern tip is our dock.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. Bear with me one second. [PAUSE]
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. I'm going to show you what's been marked as, hold on, Exhibit 5. Photographs taken by Alicia Cooney. David, are you able to see that photograph?
A. Yes.
Q. I'm not sure what number this is, Beth, in the photographs, but this is -- are you familiar with this photograph, David?
A. I just saw it for the first time today a little bit earlier, so, yes I'm familiar with it now.
Q. Okay. Can you identify in this photograph just so the Subcommittee can see where your property is? I know Alicia referenced it, but I would like you to reference it just for a point of orientation.
A. Sure. If you're looking at the powerboat that's there, not one of the six houses in the distance that go right through the cup there, but the first house to the right of those is our house.
Q. Here?
A. That's right.
Q. And the dock you referred to where I have the cursor now; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. What's on the outside of your house?
A. There's a deck that goes around the entire house.
Q. Okay. When you refer to the cup, can you tell us what you mean when you say "the cup"?
A. Just the entrance to the cove. The only way in and out
of the cove is from the tip of our property to the tip of Mr. Hunt's property. That's the way in and out of the cove. If you're going to the ocean or Point Judith Pond or anywhere out of the cove, that's where you need to transit through.
Q. Do you have a powerboat or do you operate a powerboat from the dock, from your property?
A. I do. Our family has boats as well. So we have sailboats there and powerboats.
Q. Okay.
A. I think you can see the sailboat there on the dock.
Q. Sorry about that. I just --
A. No problem.
Q. As you said that I --
A. It's got a mast just like every other sailboat.
Q. Right here?
A. That's it, yes. You see the sailboat parked right there with the mast.
Q. Okay. You're familiar -- you reviewed the materials, the CRMC file, ESS's report, and the testimony of all the witnesses that have testified from November 12th, 13th, and the 17 th and today. And you have in preparation for today you reviewed those materials?
A. Yes, I have.
Q. And listened to that testimony?
A. Yes, I have.
Q. Are you familiar with Mr. Raso's current operation?
A. I am.
Q. And you're familiar with his proposed location?
A. I am.
Q. Okay. Can you identify just in this photograph where that proposed location would be from your house?
A. Well, looking at this photograph it would be just off the bow of the powerboat, and extending to the left of the photograph is where the proposed lease site would be. From our house it is looking straight out of the living room window you would see it straight across the water and off to the east somewhat.
Q. Okay. David, you said you've been on Segar Cove since 1970. Can you tell the Subcommittee from 1970 to today the types of recreational activities that you observed on Segar Cove in particular?
A. Wow, that's a pretty long period of time. Those people familiar with Segar Cove realize that it's pretty dynamic so the kinds of activities there over the years changes. But I've seen everything there, waterskiing, sailing, clamming. Back in the day when there were crabs, people used to do a lot of crabbing along the whole perimeter of
the cove. We'd go out at kids and literally get a bushel full of blue crabs. And then my brothers, because I was the smallest and presumably the best salesman, they would send me down the street to sell the rest of the crabs. So, yeah, we did a lot. Like we'd have sailboat races in there, we'd have waterski contests, we would go clamming, later when the paddle boards came in, we did that. Anything having to do with boats and water we were all in all the time.
Q. That's in regards to your use. Were you able to make observations of the public or other people's uses of that cove during that time frame from 1970 --
A. Certainly, yes. We've seen a little bit of everything back in this cove from people tieing up for the afternoon on big giant floats the size of boxing rings and having friends out there and a cooler, to people rowing, people sailing, people paddling, boogie boards, people on rafts, little kids on inner tubes, people on jet skis, people on jet skis pulling waterskiers.

There's a couple guys who ski every morning around 6:30 when it's super calm, and they are on jet skis and they switch. One guy drives and the other guy skis. So pretty much anything that you can imagine people doing on the water, people have done and continue to do out there
depending upon the season and when -- they don't do a lot of fishing there in the wintertime, although some people do.

When the worm hatches there, it's a great place to catch striped bass. We used to catch a lot of soft shelled steamer clams back when Mr. Raso started digging clams commercially. I well remember when that first started. There were soft shell clams all over the pond, and you could get just pails full of them and they disappeared a little bit.

When I first started in the 70 s there were actually scallops in the pond. Not so much in Segar Cove, but over in other parts of Potter Pond there were wild scallops. My grandfather took me out one October, and I couldn't believe how cold the water was. He said "look and pointed to the beautiful scallop with a blue shell. So, yeah, every kind of shellfish we've done, speared flounder over by the gut and caught big stripe bass right off Mr . Hunt's point there. So a little bit of everything.
Q. I have a question. I'm going to pull up another figure for you to look at.

MR. CAPIZZO: For the record, this would be 1A, ESS's report.

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[PAUSE]
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. David, I keep hearing about this gut. Alicia referenced it. That's one thing I haven't heard of during my involvement in this matter. Can you tell me where that is?
A. Yes. The oyster bar restaurant. The oyster bar restaurant sits on the gut. So if you go to the west, right there, right there, that is the gut. That is a cut between that allows the tide to come in and out of the pond, the estuary, it's extremely narrow and the water can move really quickly through this. Perry's restaurant is right on the western edge of Succotash Road which is right there. There's a bridge that limits the height of any of the boats that can come into the pond. In addition to being shallow, most of the pond, you also have to be able to get your boat in and out under that bridge which at high tide gives you about three and a half or four feet of clearance.

So you won't see any boats with super structures on the top because they have to get under there. Going in and out of the gut, that was a big milestone in my youth because once you were allowed to go there, you could go out to the Salt Pond and out to the ocean, and it was a
little bit more freedom than being confined to the pond.
Q. Okay. Thank you for that. So are you familiar with the Figure 1A that I have up on the screen that I'm sharing?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. Are you familiar, based on having recreated and living in the area, of the different public access points that are referenced on the map?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. So when we talk about public access points, these are -are you familiar with the areas that are identified?
A. I am.
Q. Can we start with the northern most triangle right here. I think Alicia had referenced this as well. I didn't ask her this, but I'm going to ask you. Can you describe what type of access point that is?
A. Well, it's at the end of a public road that sort of slopes into the water. I think maybe back in the day people used to put powerboats in there. Now it's mostly people put in kayaks or smaller rowboats that they store the kayaks on the side. Both of those put in points there people will keep their kayaks, people from say the Matunuck community as an association who have a kayak might keep it there and put their boat in and paddle out of the cove that way.
Q. What about the triangle, the yellow triangle south of that?
A. Same deal.
Q. Okay. What about the third triangle to the south of that?
A. I think that that's a little trickier. You have to know that one is there because it is at the end of a road, but it sort of almost looks like it's someone's property but I think there is an access point down there. Again, the kind of thing where you would get your kayak and carry it ten feet and then put it down into the water.
Q. Finally, the fourth one on Segar Cove?
A. That fourth one on Segar Cove, I can't speak specifically to that one because there's a tidal marsh back there. I'm not aware of as many people using that as use the other three or any of the other ones that are in red because it's extremely shallow back there.
Q. I was going to ask you about that. Are you familiar with that area of Segar Cove?
A. Yes, yes. It's not -- it's not conducive to doing much of anything other than getting out of there. The water is, in addition to being really shallow, it does not get a lot of tidal flushing there. So it tends to be a little weedier and it's still -- it doesn't get as clean
as the rest of the cove.
Q. Is that the area where the mooring field is?
A. Yes, it is. Although not its entirety. The part to the extreme south of that, there is no mooring field in there but nobody uses that water for anything other than transiting through it to get out of that dead end of the cove.
Q. Okay. You're familiar with Segar Cove. What about the rest of Potter Pond? You talked about the recreation that you observed on Segar Cove. What about in the area -- I think you heard me ask Alicia and Kevin the types of recreational activity that takes place in and around Mr. Raso's. I think you said you were familiar with his current operation?
A. Yes.
Q. Based on your observations what would you describe, or how would you describe the types of recreational activities that take place in the area around Perry's existing operation?
A. Well, the water there, except for the northern side of it, the water is really too shallow to do any power boating there. So typically, for example, like I learned how to windsurf right out there. The prevailing wind is a southwest wind. It comes over the water and hits it
beautifully right there. It's shallow. So every time I got thrown off the windsurfer, which was frequently, I could just stand on the bottom, get back up, and learn how to do it.

But, again, there is very shallow draft on a windsurfer, eight or ten inches, so you can do that back there. But in any other powerboat, back when we were kids we would get in a rowboat, row out there in the morning and then float over those sand flats with a crab net and go crabbing there.

People don't do that now, A, because there's a farm there; and $B$, because the blue crabs seem to have mostly disappeared. But I had seen people -- I, like Kevin and others, I've never seen anybody doing anything within the confines of that farm other than working. The most I've ever seen is people paddling around it either in a kayak or a standup paddle board perhaps.

When the worm hatch comes in there are quite a number of people, believe it or not a big group of people that walks out from the marshes at East Matunuck State Beach. They walk all the way across the water to park themselves on the northern edge of his farm to cast flies into the deeper water right there so that they can catch striped bass during the worm hatch.
Q. You refer to east -- was it East Matunuck Beach?
A. Yes.
Q. Is that the area right here?
A. That's correct.
Q. It would be the southern end of where Perry's operation is on the furthest southern end which you can see the beach access?
A. Yes, that's right. And you can just see from the photographs how the sand is shaded there. It shows -that water is all about at high tide it could be three feet deep, and at low tide it could be a foot deep.
Q. So you are telling me people walk from East Matunuck all the way to north end of --
A. Yes, they do.
Q. Okay. And have you been out to Perry's operation?
A. I have.
Q. On what types of --
A. I've been out there on a standup paddle board, on a kayak, on a windsurfer and on a kite surfboard.
Q. What about navigating around that area with the motor vessel?
A. Yeah. It's not advisable because, like I said, the water is extremely shallow and there's plenty of places that you might be able to get into, but you might not be able
to get out of because it can go from two feet to a foot of depth. So no, you almost never see powerboats on the southern side of that farm.
Q. Okay. You heard Alicia's testimony earlier, correct?
A. Yes.
Q. At some point in time do you recall being able to kayak or paddle board over --
A. I do. I remember kitesurfing over the entire farm. As I said, the wind is -- it's an ideal place to do all kinds of sailing, at least on a windsurfer a kite surfer because they don't have a center board. So on the southwest wind you can get a broad reach and go back and forth, and back and forth to your heart's content. So yeah, I've been on a windsurfer, on a kayak, on a standup paddle board, on a row boat.
Q. What about now? Are you able to do those things with this current operation there?
A. No, no, absolutely cannot windsurf anywhere near it, can't kite surf anywhere near it, can't sail anywhere near it since it's taken away from reach. You can't make those runs anymore so people don't do that anymore. The best that you can do is -- I do see people occasionally windsurfing just to the south of the southern tip of his farm, and they'll go back and forth there to Ram Point.

That's the most that they can do.
Q. Okay. I'll stop sharing for a second.

What about the -- you've heard the testimony of Kevin and Alicia kind of taken them on a tour of Segar Cove and I'm sure everyone is tired of hearing it. I want to walk you through because each of us have their own individual experiences of Potter Pond. Give me one sec.

David, are you familiar with this figure, Figure 1B from ESS's available for towed water sports?
A. Yes.
Q. Let's travel north from Perry -- actually, before we leave that area, are you familiar with what Kevin referred to as Sycamore Cove?
A. Yes.
Q. Can you describe for the committee members what your observations are of Sycamore Cove?
A. The most salient thing about Sycamore Cove is that it's absolutely choked with weeds. There is a lot of eelgrass growing from the bottom. It's probably just as deep as the rest of the pond, which is to say maybe six or eight feet, but the weeds are extremely thick and grow very near to the surface. So you don't see anybody swimming or skiing or doing anything in there because if you fall,
just trying to get pulled up out of those weeds is totally impractical. The most that you can do in there is go paddling back and forth with a kayak or a standup paddle board, but even then that could be difficult because the weeds are so abundant they will foul your skeg and you'll end up having to clear the weeds off your rudder five times every minute. So people do not recreate there as much as they do in other parts of the pond.
Q. What size powerboat do you operate on the cove?
A. A 20-foot Aqua Sport with a 90 -- I used to have a 115 horsepower on it, and now it has a 90.
Q. Okay. Over the course of your -- since 1970 to 2020, 30 years, have you operated motorboats on Potter Pond?
A. I have, yes.
Q. Same size, bigger, smaller?
A. They typically are not too much bigger. As I said, there is a limit to the size boat that you can get into the pond because of the low bridge at the gut. So they are all about -- they've been from 18 to 20 feet.

When we were younger, we operated a little whaler that was 13 feet, had a 40 horsepower, and that in some sense is a little easier because the water is so shallow. Most of the places it can be a little bit easier to
navigate with a boat that size but typically we've gone with a little bit bigger boats so we can both fish in the pond and out in the ocean when the fish are out there.
Q. So let's travel north past the cut. I want to, just so we're clear, it's from the northeast of Perry's existing farm going up to just before we enter into the northern basin. If you could describe that area for the Subcommittee members?
A. Well, that's mostly a transit zone. You can see right where the gut is there, you can see that there's a semi circle at the sand. As the water pushes into the pond it's created a very shallow sandbar. In the center of that it's quite deep. It's almost 20 feet down there and there are flounder and striped bass and all sorts of wonderful aquatic life in there.

All the way to the edge of that sand it's literally a foot deep so you can't -- if you're leaving Segar Cove and heading north, you have to get your boat up onto a plane because, otherwise, if you don't, you can't get it up onto a plane in any other place because it's not deep enough. As soon as you give power to the boat, you'll be dragging your prop on the bottom. So you get it up on a plane before you hit the channel, which is just before you get to the farm, and then continue on more or less
hugging the coast as you head north.
There are significant visible rocks north of the gut, and north of that sandbar there's a big patch of visible rocks on your right-hand side. So you are staying as close to the left or western side of that as you can and stay away from the dock as a way to get up to the northern cove. So it's mostly for transit. You do see people fishing. There's quite a bit of fishing -there can be quite a bit of fishing down there during the worm hatch, but mostly the powerboats are using that to transit.

Because it's so narrow, people are not skiing in there or tubing or anything like that because if the skier were to fall, they would be in the water in the middle of the channel.
Q. The rocks that you are talking about, the north cut, are those rocks visible?
A. They are. You know, about 15 years ago there was $I$ think a boater was killed at the house just to the right of the rocks. If you don't know where you're going, you can easily drive your boat into the wrong spot, into the wrong spot there, yeah. So you have to stay well left of those rocks and stay in the middle of the quote unquote channel. Although it's not a marked channel. It's a
just a common channel.
Q. From your family's property to the northern basin on headway speed, how long does it take you to get up to the northern basin?
A. Ten minutes maybe.
Q. Okay. Now I want to talk about, you heard the northern basin of Potter Pond. You referred to it as a couple of different names, Skiers Cove, and I think Alicia mentioned something else. Are you familiar with that area of Potter Pond?
A. Very, very. You know, I'm with Alicia. I've never heard it referred to it as Skiers Cove; although people do a lot of skiing there. We always referred to it when we were kids and growing up as Third Cove or Make out Cove because that's where everybody went to try to get a little privacy from the prying eyes of their parents, and they'd throw a little anchor on their rowboat out and, you know, do what kids do.
Q. Have you had the opportunity over the course of 30 years to -- I won't ask you about making out, but how about recreating in the northern basin?
A. Yes, certainly every type of recreation, you know. I even remember the first aquaculture operation that was put in there. That was referenced during I think

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somebody's testimony earlier in these meetings talked about one of the first aquaculture operations, and I remember exactly where it was and what it looked like and wondering what it was.

That cove is quite different than the rest of Potter Pond because I'm led to believe that there's freshwater springs that come in down there and it's four times as deep as any other part of the cove. It's 20 or 30 feet deep in there. I think it's an old kettle pond. So that is certainly a preferred place to ski if you can if there's room, which lately these days has kind have been a problem because that cove gets -- every year it gets more and more crowded with more picnickers, people anchoring up for the day and having their kids swim and things like that.

But, yes, we've caught clams down there, done a lot of fishing back there, done a lot of exploring back there. There's even a secret little fishing spot to the extreme northern part of that. It's called Perch Cove, where the right time of year you might find some striped bass back there. I've seen -- the only time I've ever seen them are the saltwater otters that live in Potter Pond was in there.
Q. Okay. Have you had the opportunity over the course of
those 30 years to waterski, wakeboard, whatever?
A. You said it was 30 years. I think it's more like 50 years. I'm an old timer.
Q. Have you had the opportunity to recreate up there?
A. Yes, I certainly have, yes.
Q. You heard Alicia's testimony about her observations of how people recreate up there. Can you describe how you recreate, $I$ think you said at the cove, the Third Cove, how you waterski up there, and then I'll ask you another question.
A. Well, you know, that's a particularly great place to waterski because it's sheltered from the wind and whatnot. If you're there at the right time of day when it's not jamb packed full of boats, it's world class waterskiing there.

My brothers and I would go up out there and ski, particularly for barefoot waterskiing was really optimal because it is sheltered from the wind on so many different sides. So you would have -- conditions. So we would go out there and ski and ski and ski and ski until we ran out of gas and then go borrow money and go ski some more.
Q. Okay. What areas of that northern basin would you use to ski?
A. Well, Not so much on the western edge that's indicated that people do because we made a habit of not skiing anywhere near a channel. So the ingress and egress to Third Cove there came through, you see there's a little strip there that you need to navigate, and there's some nasty hidden rocks there that once every ten years will rip the bottom your propeller off. So you have to be careful about where you go in there.

Once you turn the corner and get into the cove, it's more or less it would be fair game to ski the entirety of that provided you weren't too close to the shore. You needed to make your turns so that you could do that safely without running into the shore or the dock or anything like that.

In recent years that water has become more difficult to use because there are more and more people picnicking there for the day. You know, we would just go for an hour or two, but recently people -- when I say recently, the past five or seven years -- people will picnic there for the entire day. They will get two or three boats, tie up and anchor up, typically a little bit on the edge so that the center is still available for skiing, but there will be five, six, seven boats in there all skiing or dragging a tube at the same time. For that reason,
it's not a great place to ski anymore because it's typically too crowded.
Q. When you say people are rafting up or anchoring up there, what part of the northern basin based on your observations would they be doing this?
A. Mostly on the southern -- the southeastern edge there. That whole patch of water is protected. You see there's no homes on the shore there, so it's spectacularly scenic. It's deep. And the wind is typically calm since the wind is usually from the southwest. That's right against the land. It's very calm there. So it's not uncommon to see 15 or 20 boats spaced out as much as they can afford to, anchored out there, swimming. They'll swim, listen to music, maybe they'll ski for a little bit and then anchor up a little bit, have lunch, and sometimes there is music and other people are coming and going.
Q. Okay. There was testimony before, I think it was Dr. Rheault who testified about an aquaculture farm. You just said you remember that farm --
A. I do.
Q. -- in the northern basin. Where in the northern basin was that? I think he said it was in the 1980s, I believe.
A. Yeah, my recollection it was just to the left. If you go to the center of the cove, it's just to the north of that, but not at the -- not at the far north of that. So two thirds of the way toward the top, and it's not giant but all I remember mostly were the big black drums. They had big black plastic drums. I think they were plastic, each of the corners holding it up. Different gear than they use these years but...
Q. Okay. Is the channel -- you are talking about the channel leaving from, let's say entering from the cut from near Perry's restaurant coming into Potter Pond. Is that I guess you could say channel marked going out to the basin?
A. No, no. To the everlasting regret of anybody who has ever tried to navigate that pond without a lot of local knowledge, it is not marked. There is -- and only some of the obstructions, there are a couple little rock piles that people put out there on their own. It's just you need to know where to go; otherwise, you can't power up. You can probably lift your engine all the way and navigate on 80 percent of it, but you will do so at one or two miles an hour.
Q. What about public access that points to that Third Cove?
A. There are no public access that $I$ know of to get into the

Potter Pond via Third Cove.
Q. Okay. I want to take you back now to Segar Cove. You testified about how you recreated and some of the observations that you've made as to recreation on the cove. Could you describe based on those observations how you use that cove, let's say, if you're doing towed water sports?
A. Well, I think Alicia made a really good point about just the big macro view of how that cove is used, the area. One of the reasons why I think so many people got really interested in voicing their opinion about this is that Segar Cove is kind of an oblong shape. For people, anybody doing water sports at high speed, be it skiing or tubing or wake boarding or whatever comes next, or bill boarding, they typically would head down the western side and then they would go north and then they would make a turn around. I think there's a diagram in the ESS of what a typical waterski run would look like.
Q. David, I will stop you there for one sec. I'm trying to share my screen. Figure 4B, the one that Alicia had referenced. I couldn't pull it up quick enough.
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. Can you see that?
A. Yes, I can. Again, this is really just specific to the
water sports, the tow sports issue. There are other issues that this impacts related to [ZOOM INTERFERENCE] nobody talked anything about that. I hope I have the opportunity to do that.

But as far as waterskiing goes and tubing, wake boarding, things of that nature, they typically would head up along the western side of the cove and then bang a pretty sharp turn as they head up towards the north side, curve back around, veer left a little bit, come towards our property, and then take a right. So it would be more or less an oblong that they are tracing. And for anybody who's done that, it is immediately apparent that putting a farm, or anything for that matter, in that section of the water is going to alter the dynamic of how this is used. Because while the tow sport folks are using the fat meaty center, anybody else, either in a sailboat or a paddle board or a boogie board or a raft or whatever they are doing, would typically hug that side, the northern, the northeastern side, to stay out of that traffic.

When people enter the cove, they do so at speed. Remember, they are typically not coming in at five miles an hour because they need to get up on a plane. They enter the cove right by our house and they either go left
down to the mooring field, which is where they keep their boat, or if they are just out for a pleasure trip, they would typically go right and take -- do a counterclockwise circuit of the cove and show their friends and family, like how cool is this, look at this, there's a beautiful farm there.

When they are doing that, if there's activity, that area where the farm is would be -- that's like the slow zone of the cove. And they would use that as a safety to get away from the activity that's happening in the center where there are jet skis pulling skiers or boats pulling skiers. That activity happens more towards the center, and anybody else would make themselves safe by getting over to that western side right where the lease is.

If that lease is there, all of those people, while they may theoretically be able to park themselves on the inside edge of the farm, I think as a practical matter I think it's unlikely to assume that people will do that. Nobody is going to want to jamb themselves into the eight feet between floating oyster cages and the shoreline. I think it's more likely that they are going to head further to the west and park themselves out into that buffer zone now.

So the skiers, importantly, are going to have to
turn around earlier. Since they won't be able to go as far north, they have to make turns earlier and that is going to create dangerous conditions in the center of that cove for people who are skiing, especially people who are skiing. Because if a kid -- you know, even without the farm there, a kid who is skiing needs to be instructed about what to do when they fall because this is a busy stretch of water on a hot summer day.

So we spend a lot of time with anybody we take skiing saying, if you fall you have to splash the water, you have to hold your hand up, you have to do this, you have to make yourself visible because there's a lot of traffic coming and going and not everybody is as conscientious as we would like them to be.

With that farm there, it really frightens me to think that the one or two or three people skiing at the same time or tubing or whatever are going to be doing that in a smaller water sheet with more traffic in it. So I just -- to me, it seems on its face a really bad place to put an obstruction in the middle of the water that will create -- it sets a motion of bad dynamic for all kinds of people, for the people skiing, it puts them at risk, and the people kayaking because this puts them in the middle, and the people paddle boarding, and it
sort of cascades down the negative effects of that.
Q. You just previously mentioned a sailboat or sailing within the cove and there hasn't been much conversation on that. Have you had the opportunity over your -- we'll leave it at your time on the cove rather than dating it, have you had the opportunity to sail on that cove?
A. Yes, very much. We used to have sailboat races. We still have a sailboat, still enjoy sailing very much. Because most of the pond is so shallow, you can't -- you can do downwind across the flats with your center board up, but typically that's not how you make ground to windward. This cove is really the only place on the entire pond that you can sail.

As I said, the northern cove or Third Cove is really protected from the wind, and in my 40 years, I've never seen one sailboat out there at all. Nobody sails on that cove at all because they can't. It's impractical to get there in a sailboat or to get back in a sailboat. The only place people will sail on this entire pond is 80 percent of it is in Segar Cove or immediately adjacent to Segar Cove inside the channel.
Q. Can you explain for the Subcommittee where in Segar Cove you sailed first, and then we'll talk about when you observed other sailboats doing in the cove.
A. Typically what you would do in sailing, again, the wind is prevailing southwest which is coming from the mooring field and heading towards the farm. So just to start out, in order to get some speed moving, you would transit directly through the lease site as you crawled your way windward. And then you have to tack on the other side and gradually make your way up. Then as you approach the mooring field the wind typically would die up there because there are homes and whatnot blocking it. So you turn around and either go straight back in as far as you could go, right down through the lease site, you would come about and repeat the process.
Q. Okay. Is that consistent with what you've observed the public to do as well?
A. Certainly. Yes, yes, I'm sure members of the public will tell you how there's a couple of identifiable sailboats that come through on a daily basis and do exactly what $I$ just said, spending a couple hours sailing doing nothing other than enjoying the peaced and quiet.
Q. We talked about on the Third Cove about rafting and anchoring. Can you describe, had you had the opportunity to observe whether yourself, other family members, Kevin, Alicia or members of the public, have you had the opportunity to observe rafting or anchoring in Segar

Cove?
A. Yes, and more of that every year. I think that as the northern cove, you know, the past five or six years I have seen a noticeable increase on the amount of people on the pond. I attribute part of that as sort of natural growth and the popularity of South County, but I also think some of it has to do with the fact Point Judith Pond expanded their aquaculture to the point where activities that were taking place there are now taking place up here. People are looking for free water that they can recreate on, whether it's sailing or skiing or doing whatever.

So back in the day, nobody anchored up down here on Segar Cove. That just wasn't done. That's not how they enjoyed the pond. Nowadays, it is very common to see two or three boats anchored up right at the lease site. They'll throw one of those rubber wrestling mats out the back and the kids will play on the back of it. While skiers or jet skiers are using the center, they and the kayaks and other people would be off to the edge there in the slow lane sort of taking it all in, watching it, spending a day on the water.
Q. Are you familiar with the shoreline that runs the length of the proposed farm?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. Can you tell the Subcommittee how you're familiar with that shoreline area?
A. Well, I literally have swum the perimeter of the entire cove with a mask and snorkel, so 1 can tell you how deep it is everywhere and what the bottom looks like and where the rocks are. But I've also been out there on a paddle board and a kayak and the powerboats and whatnot. You know, three or four times in the past 25 years I've gone over to that shore to pick up a dock. Our dock floated there once at the end of a storm. Because the wind typically again is from the southwest, a lot of stuff will wash up on that shore, so I've been out on that shore many times.
Q. What other observations have you made such as shellfishing or fishing in that area?
A. There's -- this is what -- you know, what is stupefying about the staff report was that -- and in the application, Mr. Raso is saying there's no shellfish there. Then the report says, well, we tested it for shellfish and there's only one clam per square meter. I'm here to tell that you there are more clams than that there. You can go out there with a rake and get them yourself, and you'll get a bucket or two. I know the
people do it commercially there. They harvest clams there. I've been clamming there. I've got soft shell clams there and hard shell clams there. It's a great place to get clams.
Q. Has that changed over the years in regards to clamming from your own experience I should say?
A. It has. You know, the fact that they couldn't find anything this year doesn't mean that they are not going to be there next year.

As I said, when we first -- when Perry first started commercial shellfishing, he was digging steamer clams. For about seven or eight years the entire pond was rotting with steamer clams and now you can't find a steamer clam anywhere in the pond. I don't know what happened to them, whether they got fished out or the water change or something like that, but steamer clams are nowhere to be found. Maybe they will come back in five years. I don't know.

I know that we've had a little resurgence of blue crabs. They disappeared entirely for what seemed like 15 or 20 years, but I noticed more blue crabs coming back in the past few years. So the only thing I think that you could get there right now as far as shellfish would be hard shellfish clams or quahogs.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. Bear with me one second, David.
[PAUSE]
Q. David, are you familiar with Figure $4 E$ which is a full exhibit that is entitled, Modified Proposed Aquaculture Lease to Shoreline?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. How are you familiar with this?
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
A. This resembles the Plan $B$ or something when it was revised after the original rectangle was proposed. This trapezoid or whatever shape it was was proposed. I've seen it in the plans.
Q. You heard everyone's testimony about the distance between this Option B polygon to the shore as well as today's testimony of Kevin and Alicia. Have you had the opportunity to visit the areas between what would be the proposed farm and the shoreline?
A. Yes, I have.
Q. What concerns do you have as it relates to access to that area if this farm is put there? And when I say "the area," the shoreline in the area between -- I recognize that I'm pointing to my computer screen and you can't see this, but between the polygon and the shoreline.
A. Well, I think it's certainly going to limit access to any part of that shore via a powerboat. I think it's debatable whether or not you could circumnavigate this proposed farm in a powerboat. Personally I wouldn't try it, I wouldn't do it. That little 10 -foot section right there, it may not measure 10 feet, but if you look at the shore there, there are obstructions and rocks. It's really going to be about -- you have six feet of clearance. And if the tide is low, you just won't get a boat through there.

So you may be able to access that from the northern part of it and transit on the way down but, again, those would -- you'd have to really know what you're doing and be familiar with all of this submerged obstructions that are there. And there are a quite a number of them. As Kevin said, there are quite large boulders that are underneath there that certainly would destroy your powerboat if you tried to navigate around there.
Q. Are you familiar with the work barges that Perry uses on his current operation?
A. Yes, I am.
Q. You heard testimony from Perry and others that those work barges would potentially be placed on the inside versus the outside of this polygon?
A. I did hear that.
Q. Based on your observations of that area and your knowledge of the size of those barges, would you be able to get a barge in that area?
A. No.

MS. NOONAN: Objection. I don't think this is in the scope of his factual testimony.

MR. DESISTO: Agreed. It's an opinion.
MR. CAPIZZO: I'll move on.
Q. David, let's talk about -- you had the opportunity to take some photos of the cove; is that correct?
A. Yes.

MR. CAPIZZO: Just give me one moment to cue those up.
[PAUSE]
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. Beth and Dean, this is Exhibit 4.

MS. NOONAN: Yes.
MR. CAPIZZO: And there's 17 photos and one video. I'll try to be a little quicker going through these photos for everybody.
Q. David, did you take a series of photos or provide a series of photos of recreational activity on Segar Cove?
A. Yes.
Q. Over what time did you take those photographs?
A. The ones that $I$ took were mostly taken within the past three years when we became aware of the fact that this was being proposed, so between 2018 and 2020. I think some of the photos might be historical in nature meaning they were taken 15 years ago at the spot of the proposed lease.
Q. When you say 15 -- the photos that you provided --
A. I think $I$ have a picture of my nephew in an inner tube, and I don't remember if another nephew who was waterskiing, and since the nephew has now graduated from college and he's 29 years old, and in the picture he's about 14 or 15 , it was quite some time ago.
Q. So the picture you're referring to, I pulled it up on the shared screen. Can you see that?
A. No. I see your desktop.
Q. Hold on.
A. Looks like you're camping in a green tent.
Q. It's not as nice as Mr. Ryan's. Hold on a second. Let me see.
[PAUSE]
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
Q. See that now?
A. Yes. That's the exact photo $I$ was thinking about. That young man in the yellow vest is my nephew Aiden.
Q. How are you familiar with this picture?
A. Because $I$ took it.
Q. Okay. Where did you take it?
A. I took it from the console of the boat that $I$ was pulling him on.
Q. Can you tell us where this is in relation to where in Segar Cove?
A. This would be smack dab in the middle of the lease site.
Q. When was this picture taken?
A. I would say about 15 years ago.
Q. Do you recall when or what month that --
A. It would have been in the summertime. Probably in August I am guessing.
Q. Is it a fair and accurate representation of what we're looking at?
A. Yes.
Q. Showing you a second photograph, do you recognize this photograph?
A. I do.
Q. How do you recognize it?
A. Well, because $I$ was just sitting at the house one day. I was reading through the Raso application saying that he
had never seen anybody fish in the proposed lease site. I looked out and there were four kayaks who were -- you see barely there's a group of birds there. There's a school of striped bass right there that is essentially, again, right in the middle of the proposed lease site and those kayakers are going to get those fish.
Q. In the background can you describe on the shore what we're looking at?
A. That's Alicia's house there. And just to the right on scene past the telephone poles there would be Mr. Hunt's house.
Q. Okay. This is the proposed area of where the lease that Mr. Raso is proposing?
A. Yes.
Q. This does not look like the summer.
A. It actually was the summer. It's just an overcast day. Typically the worm hatch happens in May, I think, it goes from two weeks to three weeks. It would have been early in the season probably in 2019, I believe.
Q. I want to draw your attention to the right of the screen, at least the right of my screen along the shoreline there. You were previously describing that shoreline. I think you heard Kevin and Alicia testifying about rocks and boulders and about it being rocky?
A. Yes.
Q. Can you draw the Subcommittee's attention to what you were referring to when you say it was "rocky"?
A. You can see from the photograph right now it's low tide in the cove, and the tidal flow there can be three or four feet. A lot of the shoreline is exposed. Where it's light is typically dry, and where it's dark colored it is covered in weeds and is usually underwater at a higher tide. So those are the sorts of obstructions there are right there.

So the first four to five feet of shoreline, even though it says there is five feet of navigable water there, the water is not navigable because you're going over those rocks.
Q. And the rocks you're referring to where the cursor is along the shoreline, and this is Kevin's property, running along his causeway and then you see the rocks on the shore and then you see a rock to the left of the shore?
A. Yes.
Q. Then going down all the way to Alicia's property?
A. Yes. I might be wrong, but there are occasionally people who are clamming deep in that cove there to the right where your cursor just was, even to the right further to
the right, keep going, right there. That's a spot where commercial clammers go very frequently, there and about 20, 30 feet out from there. Those might be the boats right there. I don't know, it's difficult to see.
Q. Okay. Can you tell us -- this is the third photograph, I believe. Can you tell us what we're looking at here?
A. You're looking at a jet ski pulling a kid, a jet ski with a passenger pulling somebody on a tube, and then you're looking at a paddle board pulling someone in a tube.
Q. And from what vantage point are you taking those photos from?
A. This is taken from the deck at 298 Prospect Road.
Q. So looking north on Segar Cove?
A. That's correct.
Q. What shoreline are we looking at behind the jet ski?
A. You're looking at the western shore of the cove, and they are heading -- remember I said it's an oblong. So typically what they will do is head from one end to another in usually a straighter line that they can and both of them are heading down that straight line. The jet ski is doing it on the northern side, and the other boat is doing it on the southern side. They will have to navigate their turn when they get to the other end. One will go inside and one will go outside.
Q. Do you recall when this was taken?
A. I would say that was probably July or August of 2018.
Q. Another photograph, can you tell us, are you familiar with this photograph?
A. Yes, I am because I took that photo also from the deck at 298 Prospect. There's a powerboat pulling a tube with a couple kids on it. There's a boat that is sort of floating there. It looks like a Boston Whaler, and then there's a jet ski pulling a couple of kids on a tube.
Q. Again, which vantage point? I know you said you took it from your deck, but we're looking at what part of Segar Cove?
A. We're looking at the northern part of the cove, but the western shore of Segar Cove.
Q. Okay. Do you recognize this photograph?
A. I do.
Q. Tell us how you're able to recognize this photograph.
A. I took it from my boat.
Q. When was this taken?
A. That photo was taken in August of 2018.
Q. Can you tell us what -- I know the picture speaks for itself, but for the record can you tell the Subcommittee what we're looking at and what area of the cove we're looking at?
A. Yeah, we're looking north right against Mr. Hunt's property at causeway. Those two poles are on the causeway that lead from Segar Court down to his home. So that is the causeway right in front of us. And these paddlers are heading to the west section of the cove.
Q. Is this in the same location that Mr. Raso is proposing his farm?
A. Yes. They are basically inside the lease location right now, and I think that Kevin referenced that osprey nest that a lot of people like to watch, exactly.
Q. Again, this is fair and accurate representation?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Okay. Are you familiar with this photograph?
A. I am.
Q. Can you tell us how you're familiar with it?
A. I took it.
Q. Do you know these people?
A. I don't think I do, no.
Q. What about the ones in the prior photograph?
A. No, I do not.
Q. All right. Is this -- can you tell us where you took this from?
A. I took it from my boat, I think. Yeah. My camera is not -- I don't have a telephoto on it so I would have to have
been close. So, yes, this is from my boat.
Q. Can you tell us what section of the cove, and for the record, what we are observing?
A. It's kayakers, one with a dog. One I think she's alone. Maybe she's got a beast in there or not, I don't know. But we're looking at the Cooney property in the background at the northern section of Segar Cove. These kayakers are doing what people typically do in that part of the cove. That's the slow part of the cove, and they are recreating on it.
Q. When did you take this photograph?
A. That also would have been in 2018. You know, I think I took a flurry of photos in 2018 in preparation. You know, I was naive enough to think, hey, this is being proposed. Let's take some photos and we'll get it done. But then it got delayed and delayed and delayed. So I think that the idea of taking photos was put to the back of the burner, so I'd say July or August of 2018.
Q. That's Alicia Cooney's house in the background?
A. Yes, the Cooney/Quigley house.
Q. Again, for the record, is it -- do you recognize this photograph?
A. I do. I took this photograph.
Q. Do you know these people? Because they are waving at
you.
A. I do not know these people, but I'll wave right back at them. They look really friendly.
Q. And what section -- I don't want to put words in your mouth. But again, these are taken from your boat?
A. Taken from my boat. This is on the lease I site, the proposed lease site, the center pole in the background, I believe, or perhaps the right pole is the osprey nest or the other way around. One of those is the osprey nest.
Q. How do you know this is in the proposed lease area?
A. A, because I took the photo; B, because I think that bumper or that buoy that is right in the front where they are, I think was one of the points of demarkation.
Q. Right here?
A. Yes.
Q. That the dog is looking at?
A. That's right. The dog is looking like it's a bone.
Q. When was this taken?
A. Also 2018.
Q. You said 2018. Was it in the summer?
A. Summer, July or August.
Q. Drawing your attention to the next photograph, do you recognize this photograph?
A. I do.
Q. Can you please tell us how you recognize it?
A. I took that photograph from the deck at 298 Prospect Road. It shows sort of a typical activity for what would be a summer day on Segar Cove. We're looking straight across the water to the Cooney property. Most of what we see is occupied by what the lease -- by the lease site. At least three of those boats there are in the lease site --

MS. NOONAN: If I may, I'm going to object and move to strike at this point. He's not qualified as an expert or an engineer. He keeps saying they are in the lease site, and we have nothing to support that these photos are. So I let it go for a while, but I think we kind of need to reel that back in.
A. The buoys there -- I'm sorry, the buoys there are orange on the water --

MR. CAPIZZO: David, hold on.
MR. DESISTO: Okay. Christian, actually Beth is raising a good point. This testimony has been going on for some time now. Is there some way for you to establish at least a bases that this is in fact the lease area?

MR. CAPIZZO: Sure.
MR. DESISTO: I hesitate to say that,

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Christian, because as I say, your testimony has been going on and on now.

MR. CAPIZZO: I understand. He has reviewed the materials. He identified that he's familiar with the area where the lease is proposed. He has referenced markers for the lease. I will try to draw his attention through this photo, and if $I$ can't through this photo I'll do it visualization. That may be what I need to do, Mr. DeSisto.

MS. NOONAN: If I might add also. There are two proposals. There is actually one application which is the rectangle and then there's a polygon. So I don't know when he says it's in the lease area which one he's talking about.

MR. CAPIZZO: I think to that, Mr. DeSisto, I would say that the one that Mr. Beutel based his staff report on was the polygon. Not Option, A.

MR. DESISTO: Okay. Are you going to establish that through the testimony so at least it's clear?

MR. CAPIZZO: I can, and I thought I did, but I will do it again.
Q. David, the lease area that we're talking about, we've heard lease area, Option A and Option B, Option A being the rectangle that you just heard and Option B. Are you
familiar with the two options?
A. Yes.
Q. So I want to draw your attention -- one second, please. Are you able to see Figure 4A?
A. Yes.
Q. You reviewed the materials. Is this what you understand Option A to be?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. And previously I presented this aerial which is a full exhibit. This is Option B, the polygon; is that correct?
A. Yes, that's my understanding.
Q. Okay. You've reviewed the materials as it relates to the polygon. And when you refer to the individuals being in the quote "lease area," what area are you referring to, Option A or Option B?
A. Option B because that is the one that was marked with buoys.
Q. Let's talk about that. How long has that been marked with buoys for?
A. As soon as it was proposed as of that January of 2018. Whenever it was first proposed those buoys showed up.
Q. And who marked those buoys?
A. I think Mr. Raso did in conjunction with the CRMC staff.
Q. Okay. Have you had an opportunity to go out to those buoys for that area?
A. Yes.
Q. In June of 2019, I believe, did you have the opportunity to go out to that area with ESS?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. So when we're talking about these individuals being in "the lease area" and to address the other questions that are being asked, I want to draw your attention to Exhibit 24 which is a full exhibit. Do you recognize this photograph, Mr. Latham?
[EXHIBIT DISPLAYED]
A. Yes, I do.
Q. It's entitled, for the record, Figure VS1 view from Latham property Prospect Road existing condition dated June 29, 2018. How are you familiar with this photograph?
A. It was part of the ESS site visit. I did not take this. I'm operating the boat in the center of it, but $I$ saw this as part of their package.
Q. Is that a fair and accurate representation of your vantage point from your property?
A. Yes.
Q. From Segar Cove?
A. Yes.
Q. And you heard Payson Whitney's testimony from ESS in regards to taking GPS coordinates of the proposed polygon Option B farm that currently exists out there; is that correct?
A. Yes.
Q. You also heard Payson's testimony about how there was a missing -- I think a missing buoy from his area and he had to replace that with a marker while we were out there; is that correct?
A. Yes. Those buoys, by the way, are visible in that photograph just off the bow of the boat right now, right there. You can see one. And if you go in towards shore is the other one, right there. And the others are too far away to see.
Q. Well, we're going to get there, so just hold on one second. I have to escape out to get to the next slide, unfortunately. Bear with me one second.
[PAUSE]
Q. David, do you recognize this photograph?
A. That's the same photograph we were just looking at.
Q. Again, is it a fair and accurate representation from your property?
A. Yes.
Q. Are you familiar -- how are you familiar with this photograph?
A. That was part of the ESS proposal. I mean materials.
Q. Again, there is a boat in the water. And whose boat is that?
A. That's my boat.
Q. The areas that are demarcated by a black upsidedown triangle with yellow on the outside of that triangle, is that a fair and accurate representation of the markers that exist on Segar Cove based on your observations?
A. Yes, although those buoys have moved quite a bit for various reasons, I guess, but they are approximately where they are located to this day, I believe, yes.
Q. So the prior photo that we were looking at, and I could appreciate Beth's clarification, so we're talking about the polygon, not the rectangle, correct?
A. Correct.
Q. So when we were looking at that photograph, and let me get back to it. David, when we're looking at this photograph can you tell us, is that the same area that the proposed polygon lease is in?
A. Yes.
Q. The boats we're looking at, again, can you see the markers that were referenced?
A. Yes.
Q. So let's walk through that. So let's go to the northern most marker. I have a cursor there. Is that one of the markers that you observed over the years of this polygon shape?
A. Yes. That's the northern most tip of the proposed farm.
Q. And here, moving south I would say closer to your property, is that a marker referencing the polygon shape of the lease area?
A. Yes. That is the buoy that was adjusted when they moved from the rectangle to the polygon.
Q. Okay, and I want to go closer. So moving east towards the shore, is that the other marker?
A. Yes.
Q. Okay. So these two boats, when I see these two boats, the closest boats to the shore, what are those boats doing?
A. Well, I believe that's only one boat. There's a blowup raft next to that boat. They're having a party in the raft so they've anchored up there. The other boat just appears to be transiting for the time being.
Q. In the boat that $I$ have the cursor on now that's heading I guess northwest towards Ms. Cooney's house, does that look like it's towing anybody?
A. No.
Q. What about the boat coming across the screen heading towards the east, is that towing anybody?
A. No.
Q. Again, is this a fair and accurate representation of what you observed on -- when did you take this photograph?
A. This would have been in August of 2018 . One other point. I believe that there is a person in the water in this photograph to the left of that right there, exactly. I believe that that's a skier or a somebody involved with -- the closest boat there is circling back around to pick them up.
Q. Okay. Do you recognize this photograph?
A. I do. Isn't it spectacular?
Q. Did you take it?
A. A drone took it, but $I$ was the one who took it off the camera, yeah.
Q. Did you take the photograph?
A. The drone took the photograph.
Q. But were you operating the drone?
A. I was next to the guy who was operating the drone and said, take a photo of that, please.
Q. Where was this individual operating the drone from?
A. From my brother Jeff's house which is also on Segar Cove.
Q. When was this taken?
A. The summer of 2018 . It would have been August.
Q. Is it a fair and accurate representation of what you observed in August on Segar Cove?
A. Yes.
Q. Can you tell us, where the cursor is right now what is that?
A. That is the western most buoy demarcating the proposed lease site.
Q. Do you know the person in the I think it's a crew boat or a sculling boat?
A. I did not at the time. I met her once over the past couple of years. She introduced herself to me. I had the occasion to apologize to her for annoying her with a drone taking a photograph of her because she was quite annoyed at this drone.
Q. Do you recognize this photograph, David?
A. I do.
Q. Can you tell us how?
A. It's taken from the deck at 298.
Q. When did you take this?
A. I'm going to say that's also 2018, probably August.
Q. Is it a fair and accurate representation of what you observed on that date?
A. Yes.
Q. What is that to the left of the screen near Alicia's house?
A. That's a boat, a boat pulling a tube.
Q. What direction is it headed in?
A. It's headed north.
Q. Do you recognize this photograph, David?
A. I do.
Q. How are you able to recognize this photograph?
A. I took it from the deck at 298.
Q. Can you describe to the Subcommittee and for the record what we're looking at?
A. Well, we're looking at, again, north into the lease site and we have a group of kayakers on the right-hand side of the photograph. Four or five boats there are kayaking to the north, and also shows a wake, a boat wake from a boat that was coming from the other direction and headed outside of the cove. That's the remnants of their path.
Q. Okay. When did you say this was taken?
A. August of 2018 .
Q. Is this a fair and accurate representation of what you observed that day?
A. Yes, sir.
Q. Next photograph, do you recognize this photograph?
A. I do.
Q. Tell us how.
A. I took it from the deck at 298.
Q. For the record, can you explain what we're looking at?
A. We're looking in the same direction north across the water to the Cooney house, and we're looking at two boats, one of which is at least inside the lease site. The other is about to enter it. And the other boat has just exited it, and they are pulling somebody in a tube.
Q. What about the boat that's heading north, are they pulling anybody?
A. I do not believe so. They seem to be moving along at a slower speed. You can see from the wake that they are not on a plane.
Q. Again, is this August -- when was this taken?
A. August of 2018 .
Q. How about this one, David?
A. Also 2018. Also the same direction taken from the deck at 298 that shows three boats in the proposed lease site and a sailboat about to enter, again, sailing with that prevailing southwest wind as I mentioned.
Q. Next photograph, David.
A. Taken also from the deck at 298 about the same time. This one shows two boats in the lease site, the proposed
lease site, and a jet ski heading in the direction of that lease site.
Q. What direction are the boats and the jet ski heading?
A. North.
Q. Does it appear from the photograph that anyone is towing somebody on these boats? Well, strike that.
A. It is difficult to tell. The center boat might be towing somebody. It's unclear. The discoloration in the wake right there to the left.
Q. I'm going to strike that question. The photograph is too hard to see.
A. Okay.
Q. But it's a fair and accurate representation of what you observed --
A. Yes.
Q. How about this one, David?
A. Yes. This was taken from my boat. Not from the deck, but from my boat. And this was I think taken in August also of 2018. It shows one paddle boarder, one sailboat, and a couple people on rafts inside the proposed lease site.
Q. Is it a fair and accurate representation of what you observed that day?
A. Yes.
Q. Who is this character?
A. You know, I have no clue. When we first started this, I asked for people to send photos of them using the water and this came in over the transom. You can see from the houses in the background that --
Q. I'm going to stop you there. You did not take this photo?
A. I did not take this photograph.
Q. So we are not going use this photograph. So I'll strike this photo and strike the witness's testimony. I apologize.
A. Okay.

MR. CAPIZZO: Give me one second everybody. [PAUSE]
Q. David, have you had the opportunity to observe jet skis operate on the cove?
A. Yes.
Q. Typically, based on your observations where do these jet skis operate on the cove?
A. I'm not sure I know what you mean. Where on the cove? The entirety of it. But typically they will enter the cove from the north side of Potter Pond and 90 percent of the time they head up the western edge of the cove and then they'll play around on the western side there and
then circumnavigate the cove for a few minutes, play around, do some fancy driving and then head to the other side of Potter Pond.
Q. So David, I'm showing you, I'm about to show you, do you recognize this what is a video but it's a still right now of a video. I'm going to attempt to play it. Do you recognize this?
A. Yes, I do.
Q. Can you tell the Subcommittee how you're familiar with this?
A. Well, I took this from the deck at 298 Prospect Road, and looking north towards the Cooney house you can see the lease site buoys, at least one of them visible. There are three jet skis right now shown. If I recall, there were at least four, maybe five jet skis that came in to this particular occasion.
Q. When was this taken?
A. I think this was taken in 2020. That was taken in June of this year.
Q. Again, you were the one who was operating the video?
A. Yes.
Q. All right. Hold on one second.
[PAUSE]
Q. David, I'm going to play this and you tell me if this is
a fair and accurate representation of what you observed on that day.
A. Okay.
[VIDEO PLAYED]
Q. Did that play or did $I$ sit in silence?
A. It was a little jumpy but it played.
Q. Okay. Again, is that a fair and accurate representation of your observations of the jet skis operating in that area of Segar Cove?
A. Yes, it is. You know, the reason that $I$ captured that is that jet skis and their speed is one of the big concern here with a constricted -- if the farm goes in, the area for other recreation on the pond will be restricted, and these things move really quickly. They are somewhere between 40 and 70 miles an hour, and $I$ just know that there's going to be a risk there that somebody is in the water waterskiing and falling down, and jet skis come around the corner at that speed and they are not paying attention. It scares the heck out of me that someone is going to get run over.
Q. While we have that up, do you know what this is that I'm circling right here is?
A. I do not.
Q. Can we play the video again and see if we can see it.

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A. It appears to be a buoy.

MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, I would ask that the video and photographs -- strike that.
Q. Let me ask you about this, David, since I have it up. If you didn't take it, just tell me and then don't answer. Hold on. Sorry, everybody.

MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, I'll ask that photos $1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15$ along with the video be entered as a full exhibit.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Any objection?
MS. NOONAN: I am sorry, Christian, I may have lost this. Are you excluding the two photos of the waterskiers directly?

MR. CAPIZZO: Yes.
MS. NOONAN: No objection then, as long as you exclude those.

MR. CAPIZZO: Yes.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Anything from you, Mr. Wagner?

MR. WAGNER: No, thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. So those, except for the ones excluded, are admitted in full.
[EXHIBIT \#7 MARKED FULL]

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MR. CAPIZZO: Thank you. I don't think -- hold on one second, please.
[PAUSE]
MR. CAPIZZO: I don't think I have any other questions for Mr . Latham.

Thank you, David.
THE WITNESS: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Wagner, do you have any questions for Mr. Latham?

MR. WAGNER: I have no questions. Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. I meant to ask if the Subcommittee members had any questions. Sorry about that. Any Subcommittee members want to ask Mr. Latham any questions?
[NO RESPONSE]
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. I don't see any. So to you, Ms. Noonan.

MS. NOONAN: Thank you.
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. NOONAN
Q. Mr. Latham, how are you this afternoon?
A. I'm doing fine. How are you?
Q. I am well. Thank you.
A. Good.
Q. Let's talk about the very last thing we just looked at,
the jet ski video. You didn't know what the buoy was that Mr. Capizzo asked you about, correct?
A. It wasn't clear to me that it even was a buoy.
Q. All right. None of those jet skis were in the proposed lease area, were they?
A. I couldn't tell.
Q. You couldn't tell on this one, okay. Are you concerned about the speed of four or five jet skiers coming in regardless of the farm being there?
A. I'm always concerned about the jet skis because they represent a heightened danger for anybody in the water. And typically, they are run by younger people who may not have the boating experience that would give them caution to operate safely, so yes, I'm always concerned about that, yes.
Q. And especially in the light of all the photos, your other photos showing kayakers and paddle boarders that inherently could create a navigational conflict, right?
A. Certainly.
Q. I know Mr. Capizzo had stood corrected that 50 years experience of yours on the pond. But do you live in Rhode Island full-time?
A. I do not, no. My wife and I split our time between New York, Brooklyn, and Matunuck.
Q. Great. So mainly you're here in the summer; is that fair?
A. I'm here year round on the weekends, three days out of the week but mostly on the weekends, yes. This year notwithstanding.

MS. NOONAN: Good place to hide out up here. I'd like to show you, if you can, Leslie, put this up. It will be for identification Exhibit 18 for Petitioner's. I'll let Leslie screen share if possible. [PAUSE]

MS. PARKER: You'll have to confirm I'm showing the right one. Do you want our exhibit?

MS. NOONAN: It's not marked, but it's the original one showing the site with white blocks on it. Thank you.
Q. Mr. Latham, have you ever seen this picture before?
A. Yes, I have.
Q. Is it fair to say that this is from SaveSegarCove.org?
A. It's from Save Potter Pond --
Q. Save Potter Pond, okay.
A. That's correct.
Q. And you've been talking about the locations of the buoys and everything. Would you agree with me that this proposed new site that is showing in Segar Cove is not
accurate to scale?
A. I would agree that that is not necessarily to scale.
Q. Overstates the size of the lease area, would you agree with that?
A. I'm not sure I would agree with it. I would just say that it's not accurate. I think $I$ could say it's not accurate right there.

MS. NOONAN: Okay. Leslie, if you could just show the next one which we will call Exhibit 19 for ID.
Q. In this, Mr. Latham, we have superimposed the graphics for Plan $A$, if you will, the original proposal on the site. Do you see that?
A. I do.
Q. Is that consistent with your knowledge of what the Proposal A was?
A. Is what consistent? Is the green marking?
Q. Yes.
A. Something like that, yes.
Q. Okay. And the ones that's are showing in the white box, you saw that on -- it's Save Potter Pond, is that what the organization site?
A. That's correct.
Q. In fact, Mr. Latham, didn't they organize sort of a float-in with a lot of boats and everything and paddle
boards and different people showing up on particular days?
A. Yes.
Q. And those were done in 2018, were they not?
A. That's correct.
Q. And all the photos that Mr. Capizzo went through, you gave us some general times when you thought they were taken. Do you have the specific dates of when any of those photographs were taken?
A. I do, buried in the metadata of several different cameras and expired phones, but yes that information is available. But none of those images that were submitted were taken during that float-in.
Q. Okay, but the dates haven't been presented yet as to when those photos were taken beyond your testimony that it was generally August and July, correct?
A. That's right.
Q. Okay. In terms of heading up to -- what do you call it Third Cove now? Everybody has a different name for it.
A. It does. We still call it Third Cove, so I'll stick with Third Cove.
Q. Okay. You said it takes, what, ten minutes to get up there?
A. Depends if you can get up on a plane. If there's
somebody on the channel and you can't get up on a plane it may take 15 minutes because you may have to stay off plane all the way up there.
Q. It is a relatively short distance between the entrance to Segar Cove and up to Third Cove or Skiers Cove as we're calling it?
A. It's not miles and miles, no.
Q. Okay. And the house that you're at, what did you say, 298 Prospect? You said it a few times, I should know.
A. Yes.
Q. That covers the whole point of Gardener Island?
A. That's correct, yes. My grandparents built it, several years after they built it there's two lots right next to it that my father bought so that my grandparents would have a view of the ocean side as well. So yes, it does take up the whole -- it's four lots. That's one home.
Q. So you or your family and Mr. Hunt are sort of the guardians of the cove on those two entrances, Ram Point and Gardner Island, right?
A. Sentinels of the cove, yes.
Q. If you will, yeah, sure.
A. We see it all.
Q. I imagine. From your perspective, one moment, please, sorry.

You had talked a bit about Sycamore Cove and the eelgrass, how no one could boat there because of the eelgrass, correct?
A. That's true.
Q. Okay. Did you know that generally one can't put aquaculture where eelgrass is. Are you aware of that?
A. Not before 2018 I wasn't really aware of that because I wasn't following the story as closely as I'm following it now.
Q. And you've learned a lot since then, right?
A. More than I really wanted to.
Q. What is your background, Mr. Latham, professionally?
A. I work in a nonprofit as a program director for a foundation.
Q. I also asked Mr. Hunt, aside from your personal experience on the water you don't have an aquaculture or a maritime background professionally?
A. No, I don't.
Q. Okay.

MS. NOONAN: Can $I$ just have one moment, please?
[PAUSE]
Q. Mr. Latham, I guess I should have asked this. But on the Save Potter Pond website they are opposed to the farm; is
that correct?
A. When you say "they," I'm not sure what you mean --
Q. Well, the Save Potter Pond organization. Let me ask so the stenographer can keep it clear.

If I went on to the Save Potter Pond's website today, would I find any support for Mr. Raso's proposed aquaculture farm?
A. No. The Save Potter Pond came about organically. The people in the community were generally opposed to it and so that became a vehicle to collect information and really present information to anybody. Really, at the very beginning it was neutral. It was like if you have an opinion about this, here is what you need to do to let the powers to be know. And it became clear real quickly that most people did have an opinion and a strong opinion about it, and I think that it grew out of that.
Q. That was the same organization though that put up that Exhibit 18 for ID that $I$ showed you that overstated the size of the farm, correct?
A. It's on the Save Potter Pond website, yes.

MS. NOONAN: Okay. I don't have any more
questions for you, Mr. Latham. Thanks.
MR. LATHAM: Okay.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Mr. Capizzo, back

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to you for any redirect.
MR. CAPIZZO: No, I'm good. Thank you. I'm good, Madam Chair.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: I think we're done with you, Mr. Latham. Thank you.

MR. LATHAM: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Capizzo, is there anything further from you?

MR. CAPIZZO: No. That would be the opposition's presentation.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay, thank you. So at this point $I$ think we wanted to shift back to Mr. Beutel. I'm looking to see, Mr. Moore, can you admit him?

MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, may Mr. Latham I guess be released or taken off the screen?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Ms. Noonan, are you going to have any rebuttal?

MS. NOONAN: No, not at this point.
MR. CAPIZZO: Thanks, Ryan.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Beutel, are you there?

MR. BEUTEL: I am.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Do you want to put your video on?

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MR. BEUTEL: Yes.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Welcome back, Mr. Beutel. MR. BEUTEL: Okay. Do I need to say thank you? CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: You don't. Okay. So I think, well, we asked you to come back for a couple of reasons. One, if the Subcommittee members have any questions for you after they've heard the case in chief, and the opponents' presentation. And then following that, we would offer to counsel for the applicant or the opponents if they wanted to ask you any I'll call it clarifying questions with respect to your staff report, and I think Mr. DeSisto, wanted to address that.

MR. DESISTO: I do, yes. Mr. Beutel is really assisting the administrative body in making this decision. He's not an adverse witness, and I would ask all three of the legal counsel to bear that in mind. This is not a cross-examination.

If you need some clarifications, that's fine to help the fact finder, but it is definitely not a cross-examination. So as long as there is an understanding on that, we can proceed on that basis.

Thank you, Madam Chair.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, Mr. DeSisto.
Okay. So I'll open it first to the Subcommittee members.

Does anyone want to ask Mr. Beutel anything about his staff report or his review of this application in light of what's been presented to us over the course of several meetings? Okay, Ms. Reynolds.

MS. REYNOLDS: I have a question not specifically about the report, but about a statement that one of the witnesses made. Is that permissible?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Go ahead.
MS. REYNOLDS: In the last witness, there was a statement made that the expansion of aquaculture in Point Judith Pond has put pressure on Potter Pond and increased activity there. And $I$ was wondering if this is something that Dave had an opinion about or had noticed, or he feels that it's potentially a problem that's happened.

MR. BEUTEL: Point Judith Pond has reached basically its capacity of five percent, so it has reached the five percent rule. You heard me say before that leaves 95 percent for all other activities. So in my observation of Point Judith pond, the aquaculture has, does have an effect on recreational activities, but it is a very slow effect. And as Mr. Latham had said, the last witness said, it's very difficult to run through that channel under the bridge and get to Potter Pond. So

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traffic going from Point Judith Pond to Potter Pond is really quite minimal.

MS. REYNOLDS: Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Mr. Beutel, I just wanted to ask you about the original proposed lease area and then the alternative, what we've been referring to as B, the polygon lease area. I just want to confirm for the record that your staff report is based on the preferred, your preferred, alternative B configuration.

MR. BEUTEL: So my staff report recommends configuration B. The report is based upon both configurations.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. So it doesn't -so tell me all your reasons why you prefer configuration B.

MR. BEUTEL: The major reason was in discussion with the Applicant that clearly there would be some effect of towed water sports, that configuration B would have less of an effect on towed water sports than the original configuration.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Is it limited --
MR. BEUTEL: That's the logic that was used.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: So it only related to I guess mitigating the potential impact on towed water

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sports?
MR. BEUTEL: That was what we had discussed. CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. And everything -all the other analysis for the Category $B$, it would apply either to the original proposed or the Configuration B? MR. BEUTEL: Correct.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Another thing that I've been listening about is the depth of the water in the proposed lease area. Can you address that?

MR. BEUTEL: It is one of the deeper parts of Segar Cove which is why the methods and species proposed for this application, why this site was chosen. One is, Mr. Raso has worked very hard to establish bay scallop aquaculture. It needs to have a sufficient depth for suspended culture so that the cages will hang down and not be effected by potential winter cold or potential winter ice in terms of harvesting the animals.

The other piece is that the sediment in the proposed lease area is soft mud and cages would not be appropriate in soft mud. Floating and suspended gear are appropriate methods for soft mud, and we have shown this in other applications throughout Rhode Island.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Thank you. Any other questions for Mr. Beutel about his report?

Mr. Gomez?
MR. GOMEZ: I appreciate the discussion on configuration $B$, but as I've gone through this, it seems to me that there's pros and cons for both. I'm kind of leaning toward the original configuration. Do you see that as a major problem, Dave?

MR. BEUTEL: I do not see that as a major problem, while it clearly establishes that the original proposal could be okay, if the original proposal in terms of a business layout for the Applicant is much better than alternative B.

MR. GOMEZ: It is certainly more efficient and easier to work with. One of the big items as we've gone through a thousand of this is the issue of balance. To me, I think you've done a good job of trying to achieve a balance. Do you want to talk about that a little bit? Do you believe at least we have in fact achieved a balance for all the uses that we've heard that the cove, Segar Cove is put to, the idea of a balance?

We're taking a very small percentage, I think, for this farm. People are indicating I guess that it's in a critical area, but the whole area is reasonably small. So getting back to my issue is whether you feel we have a balanced use with this farm being placed in the area?

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MR. BEUTEL: I do think that the uses would be balanced. The report does say the uses will be effected, but it is my assessment that the effects will not be significant.

MR. GOMEZ: Thank you.
MR. BEUTEL: Different presentations, kayaking will still occur virtually as it is now, as will paddle boarding. Sailing will be minimally effected. Towed water sports are effected a little more than the others.

Very clearly in the site assessment from both CRMC and the Department of Environmental Management and Fisheries, this is not a good clamming area. Any area of mucky sediment is not a good clamming area. I fully agree that adjacent to it in a slightly harder bottom, those are good clamming areas for both quahogs and steamers. Although, the steamers are virtually nonexistent now, as are the bay scallops on that pond.

So following the track on steamers and bay scallops, for wild harvest it seems really irrelevant to me. The relevant species is quahogs, and there are good quahog areas in there. Just this lease site is not one of the good quahogging areas.

MR. GOMEZ: We did have discussion at one of the earlier meetings about the issue of the skiers. I

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think, as $I$ remember, the net result was that it appeared that with the farm in place it went from the ability safely to handle two skiers in that area doing basically ovals close by, down to one skier. So it seemed to turn out that, you know, for this farm to be in that area that you may lose one skier. One skier would fit comfortably doing circles. Two skiers would have a problem. So if you denied the farm, you added in one skier to the environment. That's just a statement on my part. I guess you really don't need to comment on that.

I have one last question. What, in your idea of removing one row of the cages, is that a severe impact to the Applicant? I know it's an impact. It would make the hole feel a little bit smaller and it might get us a little off shore from that ten-foot, the ten-foot problem, or moving the whole farm out another ten feet or something.

Do you see that the removal of one row of the oyster bags, not the plantings, maybe adding in a little more area for the bottom plants with the scallop, although I think the financial aspect are really with the oysters, but I'm not an expert on that.

So my question really is the impact of the removal

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of one modifying it to remove one row of the bags. Your comment?

MR. BEUTEL: Removing one row of bags certainly would have an impact on the bottom line, but it's small.

MR. GOMEZ: Okay, very good. Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, Mr. Gomez.
Mr. Murray or Coia, anything from you two?
VICE CHAIRMAN COIA: No.
MR. MURRAY: No.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Now turn it over, I'll start with Ms. Noonan. Do you have any questions for Mr . Beutel on the staff report or review of the application?

MS. NOONAN: I do not. Thank you.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay, thank you.
Mr. Capizzo?
MR. CAPIZZO: Madam Chair, may $I$ just have one moment? I was looking at my notes.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Sure, I'll go to Mr. Wagner.

MR. WAGNER: Thank you. Good afternoon, Mr. Beutel. You acknowledge that Segar Cove is a good recreational fishing area, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Could you repeat the question,

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please?
MR. WAGNER: I believe in your report you acknowledge that Segar Cove is a good recreational fishing area, the entire cove?

MR. BEUTEL: I acknowledge that the Segar Cove is the fishing area, yes, particularly during the worm hatch.

MR. WAGNER: Okay, and locating a three-acre shellfish farm would limit fishing in that three-acre area, right?

MR. BEUTEL: During the worm patch the worms hatch from very shallow water. Shallower than the proposed site. The effect of the proposed site would have on the worms is after they have really come up out of the sediment, they would drift down into the site area. So it is a major location for fishing for striped bass during worm hatch. It is a location. It's not a major location. It is one of the many locations within Potter Pond.

MR. WAGNER: Okay. I think you testified that it would be hard to imagine someone fishing in that three-acre area amongst the floating gear; is that fair?

MR. BEUTEL: It would be difficult to fish with
a rod and reel inside the three-acre area with floating

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and suspended gear.
MR. WAGNER: Okay. I think you determined that the proposed site is not -- you just talked about it not being valuable clam habitat at this time.

MR. BEUTEL: That is correct, as did DEM.
MR. WAGNER: But you acknowledged that adjacent to the proposed lease area are good clamming areas?

MR. BEUTEL: We did.
MR. WAGNER: Now, there was some testimony today and I want to ask you about that. There was testimony that someone made a point that that could change, that this is a dynamic system. You could conduct a shellfish assessment five years from now and find out it's full of clams. Do you agree with that?

MR. BEUTEL: I'm sorry. I'm having a hard time understanding you.

MR. WAGNER: I'm sorry, Mr. Beutel. I'll try to slow down. We had some testimony here today that that actually was a very good clamming spot, the leasing area. And I'm asking you is, do you agree that's a dynamic system? You could, for example, conduct a shellfish assessment five years from today in that same spot and find that it's full of clams. Do you agree with that?

MR. BEUTEL: I do not. The only way that the
clam in the area would become a better clam habitat is if it became a harder bottom. So the fact that it is soft sediment, mucky sediment, is not going to change the clam density in that area.

MR. WAGNER: Okay. I think you acknowledge that the proposed farm would have a greater impact on sailboats and powerboats than on kayaks and I think it was paddle boards; is that right?

MR. BEUTEL: If I understood the question right, the site will have an effect on paddle boats most, kayaks, paddle boards very little, and sailboats in between.

MR. WAGNER: Okay, and I think you testified that swimming could be effected if people wanted to swim through that site.

MR. BEUTEL: I would agree. Swimming in the site would -- floating in submerged gear would not be a good idea.

MR. WAGNER: I think you said it is not advisable.

MR. BEUTEL: Yeah, I wouldn't advise anyone to do it.

MR. WAGNER: So I think we can agree that there is no question that the proposed farm would interfere
with someone's ability to swim in that area, right?
MR. BEUTEL: Please repeat that.
MR. WAGNER: Would you agree that the proposed farm would interfere with someone's ability to swim in that area?

MR. BEUTEL: Yes.
MR. WAGNER: Now, in the staff report you state that boating activities have previously been acknowledged. Swimming through an aquaculture site is not advisable. Please note five percent rule, and then you cite to the regulation. Do you remember that?

MR. BEUTEL: I'm sorry. Please repeat that.
MR. WAGNER: Sure. In your staff report you state, "Boating activities have previously been acknowledged. Swimming through an aquaculture site is not advisable. Please note five percent rule."

Do you remember that?
MR. BEUTEL: Yes.
MR. WAGNER: First, there's no question that there are existing uses and activities in that area, right, boating, fishing and swimming. We all agree with that, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Yes.
MR. WAGNER: Now, the five percent rule is
designed to address ecological consequences, correct?
MR. BEUTEL: I think you heard the testimony of Carry Byron and Dr. Rheault, Dr. Byron and Dr. Rheault, and that really the five percent rule is a social carrying capacity. It was originally based on ecological carrying capacity and the results of Dr. Byron's Ph.D work showed that five percent was really miniscule compared to the overall ecological carrying capacity for aquaculture.

MR. WAGNER: So you think five percent applies to more than the ecological issues?

MR. BEUTEL: I think the five percent rule is important, but it is mostly because of social carrying capacity. Social issues.

MR. WAGNER: Okay. Here, the Applicant seeks to divide the three-acre area equally between two uses or two species, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Yes.
MR. WAGNER: As I understand, Mr. Raso is seeking to grow oysters using floating cages and to grow I think it's bay scallops using suspended lantern nets; is that right?

MR. BEUTEL: Correct.
MR. WAGNER: He's currently farming oysters in

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the existing 6.9-acre farm?
MR. BEUTEL: Correct, and he has worked with bay scallops in the existing farm.

MR. WAGNER: He does bay scallops in the existing farm as well?

MR. BEUTEL: No. He has worked with them. I won't say he has been successful with them.

MR. WAGNER: Okay. Am I correct that the scallops require the deeper water, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Correct.
MR. WAGNER: Okay, but oysters can be farmed in the shallow water?

MR. BEUTEL: Correct, which is his proposed layout. The oysters in the shallower water, scallops in the deeper water.

MR. WAGNER: So the proposed floating cages and suspended lantern nets, they would occupy the entire water column though, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Please repeat that.
MR. WAGNER: I'm wondering about this term off bottom culture. I take that to mean that the proposed floating cages or the lantern nets, they occupy not just the bottom but basically the water column right up to the surface.

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MR. BEUTEL: They are -- lantern nets would be in the water column. Floating oyster cages would be in the water surface. It would not be on the bottom. You are correct that they would not be on the bottom.

MR. WAGNER: Okay. So Generally speaking, off bottom culture uses -- they use more of the water column than the bottom culture?

MR. BEUTEL: In the depth, yes.
MR. WAGNER: Off bottom culture creates more conflicts with other uses because they physically exclude other types of activities in that area, right?

MR. BEUTEL: They exclude some activities.
MR. WAGNER: Okay. On the other hand, a bottom culture is not as invasive because there are no structures in the water column that would prevent the overlying water from being used for other activities; is that fair to say?

MR. BEUTEL: It depends upon the depth of the water. For example, a three-foot tall cage that sits on the bottom in three and a half feet of water would effect the water column. So no, I don't think you can make that assumption.

MR. WAGNER: Here we're talking about water
between five and six feet; is that right?

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MR. BEUTEL: Correct, the mean well water.
MR. WAGNER: Okay. Limiting the method to bottom culture would significantly reduce any use conflicts here, wouldn't it?

MR. BEUTEL: Limiting this site to bottom culture would eliminate the ability to grow shellfish because of the soft sediment that is there.

MR. WAGNER: Okay. How about limiting the size of the lease area? Would that reduce potential use conflicts?

MR. BEUTEL: Obviously.
MR. WAGNER: Okay. And here Mr. Raso is asking for the maximum size, three acres?

MR. BEUTEL: Mr. Raso is asking for three acres. When he submitted this application, there was not a regulation addressing the size of the applications. There were guidelines that addressed the size of the application, but not regulations, but now that has since changed.

MR. WAGNER: Okay. Now that he's using floating cages and other off boating gear, that's limited to three acres maximum, right?

MR. BEUTEL: That's correct.
MR. WAGNER: I think you stated that Mr. Raso
has made an effort to address the many objections the application has received here.

MR. BEUTEL: I made that statement.
MR. WAGNER: And part of what he did was he suggested this Plan $B$, right?

MR. BEUTEL: That was part of it.
MR. WAGNER: And your recommendation is Plan B is preferable?

MR. BEUTEL: That's my recommendation.
MR. WAGNER: Mr. Raso has never offered to reduce the size of the lease area, has he?

MR. BEUTEL: He has not.
MR. WAGNER: In your testimony you talk about Mr. Raso's business being a very successful restaurant, and I think you testified that he has been successful in Matunuck and Potter Pond and wants to expand his business.

MR. BEUTEL: He wants to expand the oyster business.

MR. WAGNER: I think you just testified that eliminating one row would impact the bottom line.

MR. BEUTEL: That's right. If he eliminates one row, he will have that many less oysters to grow and harvest.

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MR. WAGNER: You're familiar with the state law and the CRMC regulations relating to aquaculture in general, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Say that again, please.
MR. WAGNER: We all know --
MR. DESISTO: Hold on. Let me jump in. It's starting to sound like a cross-examination. It's starting to sound like that. Can you just ask the question whatever it is, Dean?

MR. WAGNER: Sure, I will.
The CRMC manages the tidal waters and lands as a public trust for the citizens of this state, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Correct.
MR. WAGNER: This is referred to as the Public Trust Policy or the Public Trust Doctrine, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Correct.
MR. WAGNER: And the leasing process must take into consideration what is best for all the residents of the state, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Correct.
MR. WAGNER: We're not just concerned about
Mr. Raso's business, right?
MR. BEUTEL: Say that again, please.
MR. WAGNER: As the aquaculture coordinator you

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shouldn't be concerned about Mr. Raso's business. You should be more concerned about the public, the residents of the state, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Well, Thank you for telling me what my job should have been.

MR. DESISTO: Excuse me. Hey, Dean, for clarification purposes that's really an argument, to me, that you'd make at the end. If you have some clarification on the report, that's fine, but you're basically -- now it's stretching into cross-examination and final argument. If you have any questions to clarify what he had in his report, can you stick to that, please?

MR. WAGNER: Sure.
Mr. Raso's business is not limited to selling shellfish at his restaurant, right?

MR. BEUTEL: No.
MR. WAGNER: He's using -- his existing lease of 6.9 acres is to sell oysters all across the country, right?

MR. BEUTEL: I have no idea where he sells all of his oysters.

MR. WAGNER: Have you visited his website?
MR. BEUTEL: I have not.
MR. WAGNER: Are you aware whether he ships all

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across the northeast?
MR. BEUTEL: I hope that he does.
MR. WAGNER: Why do you hope that he does?
MR. BEUTEL: I am not aware of it.
MR. WAGNER: Okay. I'm going to move on to a different topic because $I$ see Mr . DeSisto ready to jump off his seat. I'm going to move to the last topic here.

Mr. Raso exceeded the boundaries of the existing farm, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Say that again, please.
MR. WAGNER: Mr. Raso has a 6.9-acre farm now, right?

MR. BEUTEL: Correct.
MR. WAGNER: And he exceeded the boundaries of that farm, didn't he?

MR. BEUTEL: Yes, he did.
MR. WAGNER: Who is responsible for monitoring existing aquaculture farms?

MR. BEUTEL: The CRMC aquaculture coordinator.
MR. WAGNER: Were there any regulatory consequences for Mr. Raso enlarging the size of his existing farm?

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Does this have anything to do with the staff report or reviewing the application?

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MR. DESISTO: It doesn't. By the way, Dean, here is my point. When you make your final argument, that's what you say. This is what I didn't want to have happen because it's turning into a cross-examination, But you can say it at the end.

The testimony is it exceeded the limits and nothing happened. You can say that later on, but if you have some questions, please do it. Okay?

MR. WAGNER: Okay. I'm citing from his report where he talks about the fact that he exceeded the last farm. So I --

MR. DESISTO: Why do you need a clarification of that if it's in the report? That's what I'm trying to say. Is there some confusion on the issue? I don't think there is.

MR. WAGNER: All right. Mr. Beutel, was Mr. Raso fined or were there any adverse consequences when he exceeded his lease area?

MR. BEUTEL: Mr. Raso was not fined for exceeding his lease area. He worked with CRMC and Department of Environmental Management to configure it back to 6.9 acres. That has been actually a common practice for, not common but not unusual practice, for other leases of this age where the original GPS

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coordinates were taken with less accurate instruments.
MR. WAGNER: Thank you Mr. Beutel. I have no further questions.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, Mr. Wagner. Mr. Capizzo?

MR. CAPIZZO: Hey Dave, how are you?
MR. BEUTEL: Good, Christian. How are you?
MR. CAPIZZO: Good to see you even though it's virtually. Dave, how long were you the aquaculture director for?

MR. BEUTEL: From 2009 into when I retired earlier this year.

MR. CAPIZZO: You retired June of 2020, correct, the end of June 2020?

MR. BEUTEL: I retired at the end of June, June 30th.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. As part of your -- you just talked about as part of your duties as aquaculture director is to review these applications and make sure that the applicants are satisfying that the requirements, here Category $B$ requirements, in order for you to give a positive recommendation to the full Council; is that correct?

MR. BEUTEL: I'm sorry. I missed that whole

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question. I think the question was reviewing the application for the Category $B$ requirements. Is that -MR. CAPIZZO: Yeah, Dave. Lisa will read it back because $I$ don't want to mangle it.

MR. DESISTO: Okay, but before she does that, can I ask a question, Christian? Is the purpose of the question designed to impeach him? Is that what you're trying to do?

MR. CAPIZZO: Not at all.
MR. DESISTO: Is there something unclear in his report that would lead you to ask that question?

MR. CAPIZZO: I'm trying to understand whose burden it is, Mr. DeSisto, to satisfy the requirements. So if Mr. Beutel can answer that question as to Category $B$ requirement, whose burden it was.

MR. DESISTO: Let me ask you a question because it's a legal question. Don't you think that that's in the regulations? Shouldn't that be on the Applicant?

MR. CAPIZZO: It is on the Applicant.
MR. DESISTO: Okay. So why are we asking a question?

MR. CAPIZZO: I just want to hear it from Mr. Beutel because it relates to his staff report.

MR. DESISTO: I'm going to say this to the

Chair. That would call for a legal conclusion. That just would. You know, to me, if he could stick to the facts on this thing and go.

You know, we said no cross-examination. Everybody nodded their heads. And that's what I'm stressing. If there's something unclear in his report that you need to have clarified, fine. But please, don't make your final arguments in questioning Mr. Beutel. It is not appropriate in an administrative proceeding. It just isn't.

MR. CAPIZZO: I understand, Mr. DeSisto. I worked with Mr. Beutel for over ten years at the AG's office. I respect him. I'm not trying to impeach him. What I'm trying to determine, and I'll ask Mr. Beutel this question.

Dave, the burden is on the Applicant to satisfy you to approve the application. The information that is provided by Applicant is what you base your decision on; is that correct?

MR. BEUTEL: That's correct. If there are -if more information is required, I'll answer your question.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. And as it relates to Perry demonstrating that this farm will not result in

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significant conflicts, you received photos from Mr. Raso?
MR. BEUTEL: He submitted photos.
MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. In addition to that, he submitted a revised map, Option B; is that correct?

MR. BEUTEL: Yes.
MR. CAPIZZO: So other than those two documents and then his statement that this will not significantly impact, significantly conflict water dependent uses, did Perry submit any other information to you?

MR. BEUTEL: The information that he submitted is in the file.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay, but the information that was presented at this hearing by Perry, was that presented to you in your review?

MR. BEUTEL: Yes.
MR. CAPIZZO: Okay.
MR. BEUTEL: Say that again.
MR. CAPIZZO: It's okay. I'm not trying to confuse you or trick you. Diprete Engineering information that Beth provided, was that provided to you as part of your staff recommendation?

MR. BEUTEL: The information that is in the application is what was provided to me.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. You also testified, Dave,

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that Perry has been trying to do this type of operation to expand his farm for at least six years. Is that expansion solely in Potter Pond?

MR. BEUTEL: He has tried to expand in Potter Pond.

MR. CAPIZZO: Did he go outside of Potter Pond to try to expand?

MR. BEUTEL: Repeat that, please.
MR. CAPIZZO: Sure. You worked with Perry over those six years assisting him trying to determine locations. Did Perry ever present you with an option outside of Potter Pond for what he's proposing within Segar Cove?

MR. BEUTEL: He has not presented an application for outside of Potter Pond. He has come in and discussed locations outside of Potter Pond.

MR. CAPIZZO: You've been doing this for a long time, and I know you made some reference in your testimony and in your staff report about the opposition. I know you heard it all, I'm sure, over the course of your years from those opposing and those in support of; is that fair to say?

MR. BEUTEL: I didn't understand what you mean.
MR. CAPIZZO: The question is, you've heard it
all as it relates to opposition to these types of farms, as well as support, over the course of your time as the aquatic director at Coastal as it relates to opposition and in support of. When $I$ say "hear it all," the objections or the letters of support, correct?

MR. BEUTEL: I heard many objections before. I've heard many supporters before.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay. And you included in your report, or at least in your testimony and it's referenced in your report, that there was 147 written objections, reference social media, and you distinguished between non-residents, non-Rhode Island residents and Rhode Island residents; is that correct?

MR. BEUTEL: That's in the report.
MR. CAPIZZO: And in fact, you included I think it was a drawing of Save Potter Pond. Stop Oyster Cage Expansion in Segar Cove, some type of drawing, and it has a bird diving down. Did you include that in your staff report, too?

MR. BEUTEL: That was in the report.
MR. CAPIZZO: Can you explain to me why you felt the need to include that in the report?

MR. BEUTEL: So that the Coastal Council could review all of the types of materials that had come in.

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MR. CAPIZZO: You didn't include -- I think you summarized 147 letters, but you didn't include those with the staff report, correct?

MR. BEUTEL: All of the applications are attached to the report.

MR. CAPIZZO: Okay.
MR. DESISTO: Is that for purposes of --
Christian, is that for purposes of impeachment?
MR. CAPIZZO: It is not, Mr. DeSisto. I'm just trying to get a clarification --

MR. DESISTO: What is the purpose of it?
MR. CAPIZZO: I'm trying to get a clarification what he based his staff report on, and if it's based on what's been submitted, Mr. DeSisto. He included that pamphlet.

MR. DESISTO: So it's clear he put one thing in but summarized others, correct?

MR. CAPIZZO: That's fair.
MR. DESISTO: Okay. So does it need to be -- I mean, you're asking motivations. To me it's clear. One thing went in. Something else got summarized. I'm only saying this so that we can be fair about this. I thought I was clear with Mr. Wagner, and I have to be clear with you, too. This is for clarity purposes. You can ask him

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questions, but it certainly is not an opportunity for cross-examination to impeach. He's not really a witness. He's really here, he gave a staff report. That's what I'm trying to do to keep this hearing --

MR. CAPIZZO: I understand. I'm not trying to impeach him. The staff report holds a lot of weight, and I respect Mr. Beutel when I worked with him and I continue to respect him. I'm just trying to get a better understanding of his staff report as to what he based his recommendation on. And part of that goes to his review of the letter of objections versus the letters of support. I'm just trying to get a better understanding.

MR. DESISTO: And you're able to say that when you file your brief on this thing and you argue to this Subcommittee and the Council that this happened. Correct?

MR. CAPIZZO: That is correct. I'm just trying to get clarification from Mr. Beutel. That's all, Mr. DeSisto.

MR. DESISTO: You're trying to get to his motivation and you're trying to impeach him. Because if you get to the motivation, depending on what he says, then you can use that to impeach him later on even though

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he's just presenting a staff report.
MR. CAPIZZO: You're very clear on that.
That's not the intent. I'll move along, Mr. DeSisto. If $I$ can have a moment?
[PAUSE]
MR. CAPIZZO: I don't have any other questions. Thanks, Dave.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, Mr. Capizzo. So it appears that we are concluded for the day. We achieved everything we wanted to achieve. We are not starting public comment until our next meeting which is, Mr. Willis?

MR. WILLIS: The public comment will begin 10:00 a.m. on December 16 th and also continued on December 30th, at 10 a.m.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Those are both three-hour meetings, correct?

MR. WILLIS: That is correct.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Then if we need to have an additional meeting, we will, but it will obviously be determined on the 30 th.

MR. WILLIS: Yes.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. Anything else administratively, Mr. Willis?

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MR. WILLIS: No, Madam Chair. That is it. We will make sure that we continue to notify all parties, all interested parties of the proceedings to come and make sure that our website is up to date and accurate. But at this time there is no more administrative issues to deal with.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. I think, Mr. DeSisto, we wanted to ask for at some point proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law, and post-hearing briefs. And we're not at the end yet, but that's a major piece of work product that we will want in the new year. Correct?

MR. DESISTO: Yes, that's correct, yes, and prior to a decision of the Subcommittee.

CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: And prior to our workshop.

MR. DESISTO: Correct, yes.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Okay. All right.
Anything else from counsel?
MS. NOONAN: No.
MR. WAGNER: Nothing.
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: If nothing else, then I
will move to adjourn. Is there a second?
MR. COIA: Second, Madam Chair.

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[ADJOURNED AT 5:05 p.m.]
in favor?
[UNANIMOUS VOTE TAKEN]
CHAIRWOMAN CERVENKA: Thank you, everyone. Good night.

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| C ERTIFICATION <br> I, Lisa M Reis, hereby certify that the foregoing Pages 479 through 689, inclusive, are a true and accurate transcript of my stenographic notes of the proceedings, via Zoom, which occurred on the above-entitled dates, to the best of my ability. |
| :---: |
| LISA M. REIS, RPR <br> Court Reporter/Notary Public <br> My Commission expires on 7/27/24 <br> Sworn to and subscribed before me, <br> This 16th day of December, 2020 |


| \# | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 506:22;532:6; } \\ & \text { 584:5;664:2;669:1,4; } \\ & \text { 673:6 } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 494: 12 ; 667: 6 ; \\ & 669: 9,15 \\ & \text { acres }(5) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 495:20;504:6; } \\ & \text { 587:22;687:20 } \\ & \text { address }(\mathbf{8}) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 528: 6 ; 530: 15 ; 534: 1, \\ & \text { 19;537:23;554:17; } \\ & \text { 565:23;566:13,17; } \end{aligned}$ |
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| 648:24 | $\begin{aligned} & 566: 1,24 ; 568: 14 ; \\ & 575: 18 ; 580: 19 ; 583: 2, \\ & 6 ; 588: 8 ; 589: 24 ; \\ & 593: 10 ; 595: 17 ; \\ & 600: 24,24 ; 601: 6,16 \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 629:10;630:11; } \\ & \text { 631:21;632:5;634:21; } \end{aligned}$ |
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