

# Aquaculture Working Group For

Dutch Island Harbor, Jamestown, RI

(DEM/CRMC/Town of Jamestown)

Ben Goetsch  
Aquaculture Coordinator, CRMC  
[bgoetsch@crmc.ri.gov](mailto:bgoetsch@crmc.ri.gov)  
401-783-3370

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# Rhode Island General Laws Title 20 - Fish and Wildlife

## Chapter 20-10 Aquaculture

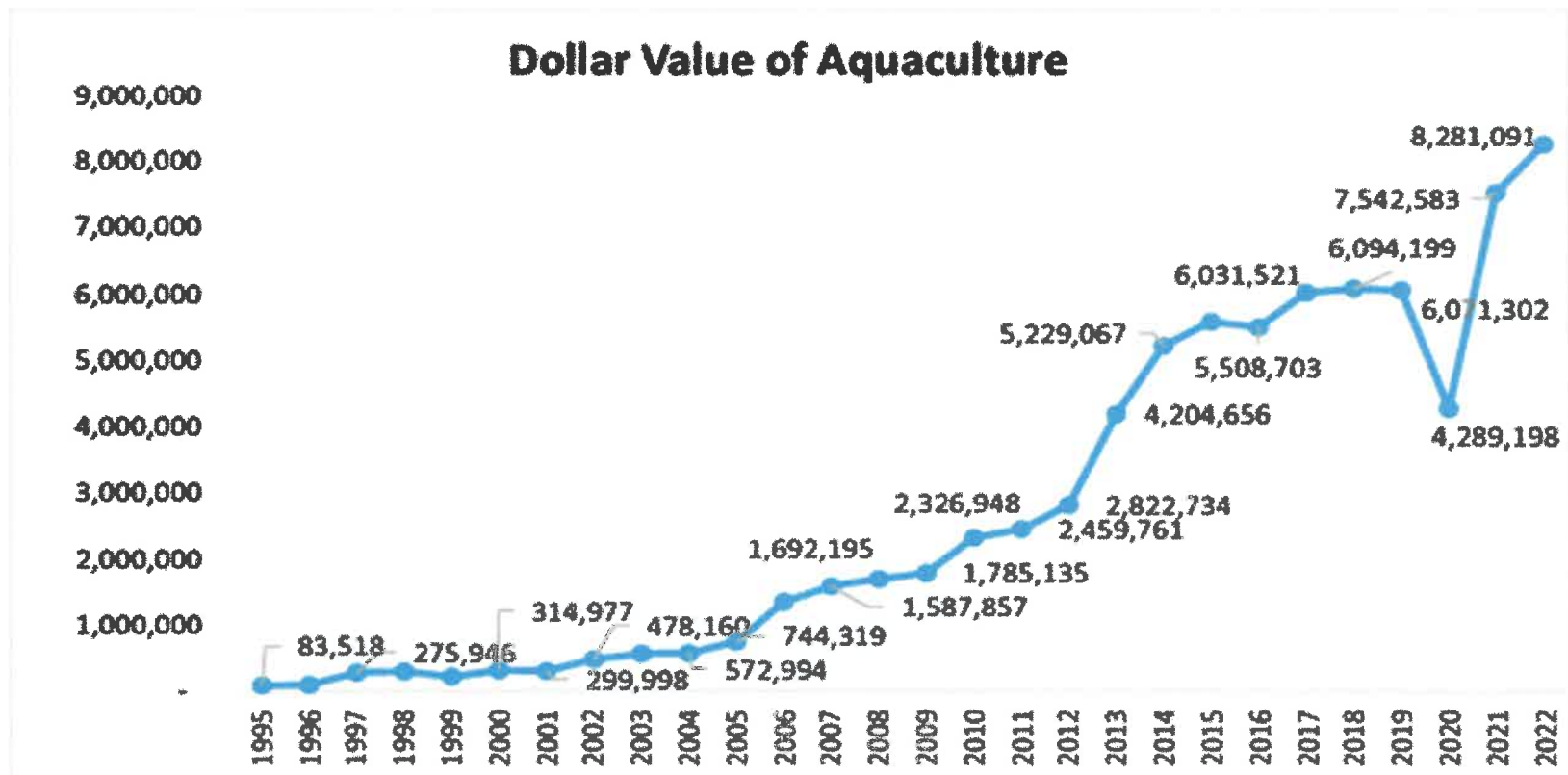
### Section 20-10-1 Declaration of intent and public policy.

- Whereas, R.I. Const., Art. I, Sec. 17, guarantees to the people the right to enjoy and freely exercise all rights of fishery, and imposes on the general assembly the responsibility to provide for the conservation of water, plant, and animal resources of the state; and
- Whereas, it is in the best public interest of the people and the state that the land and waters of the state, are utilized properly and effectively to produce plant and animal life; and
- Whereas, the process of aquaculture is a proper and effective method to cultivate plant and animal life; and
- Whereas, the process of aquaculture should only be conducted within the waters of the state in a manner consistent with the best public interest, with particular consideration given to the effect of aquaculture on other uses of the free and common fishery and navigation, and the compatibility of aquaculture with the environment of the waters of the state; therefore,
- It is the public policy of this state to preserve the waters of this state as free and common fishery. The health, welfare, environment, and general wellbeing of the people of the state require that the state restrict the uses of its waters and the land thereunder for aquaculture and, in the exercise of the police power, the waters of the state and land thereunder are to be regulated under this chapter.

# CRMC Aquaculture Policy

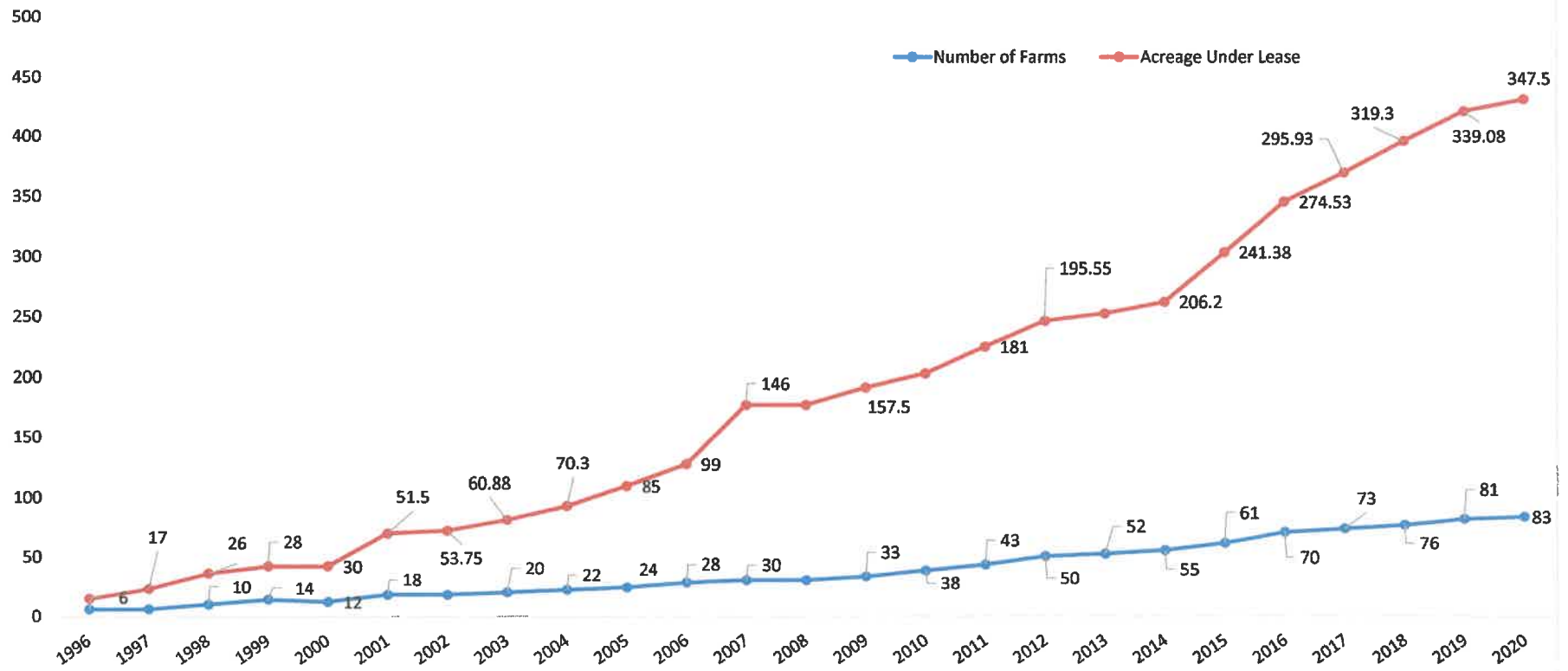
“The CRMC recognizes that commercial aquaculture is a viable means for supplementing the yields of marine fish and shellfish food products, and shall support commercial aquaculture in those locations where it can be accommodated among other uses of Rhode Island waters.” 650-RICR-20-00-1.3.1(K)(1)(a)

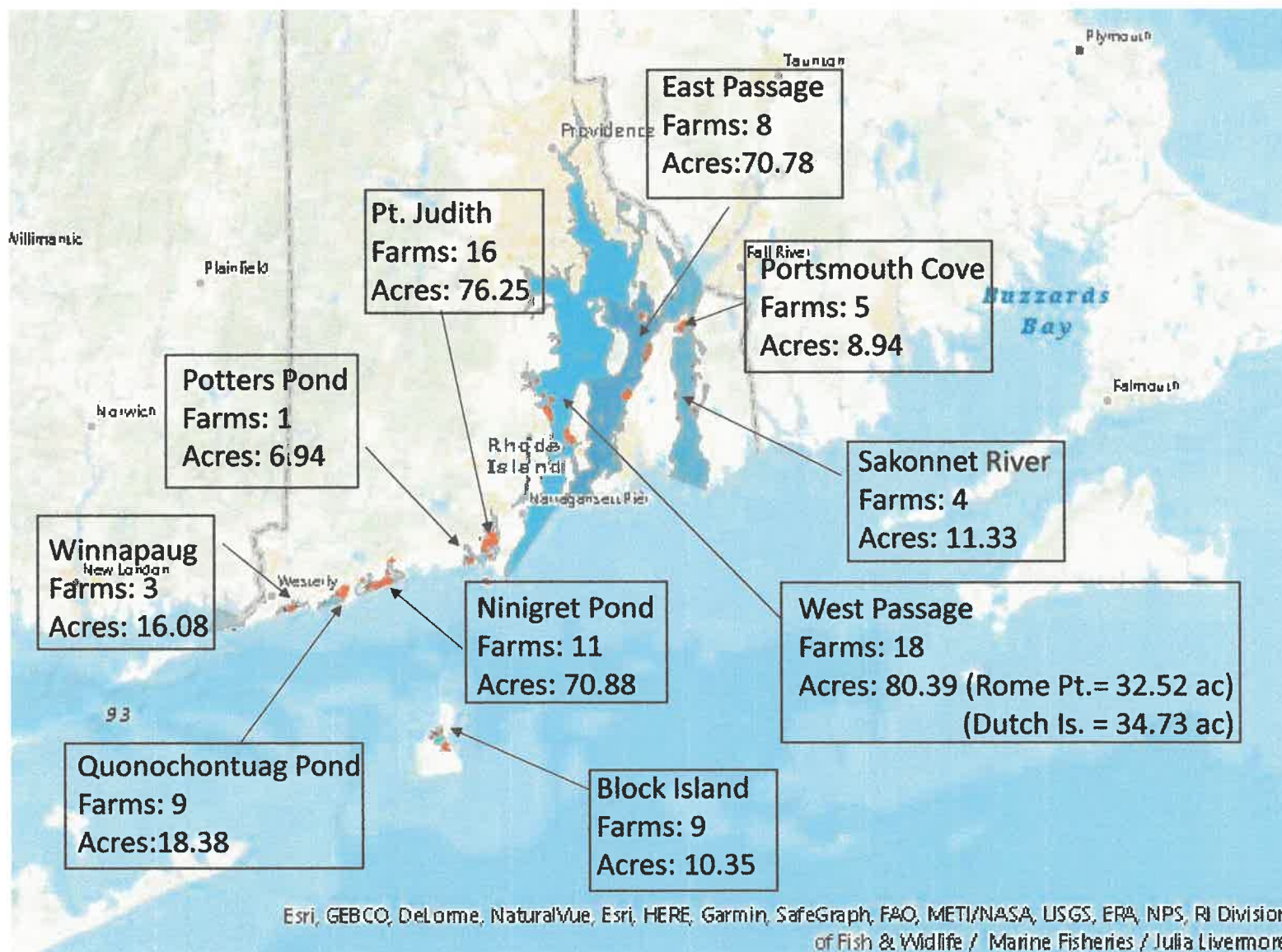




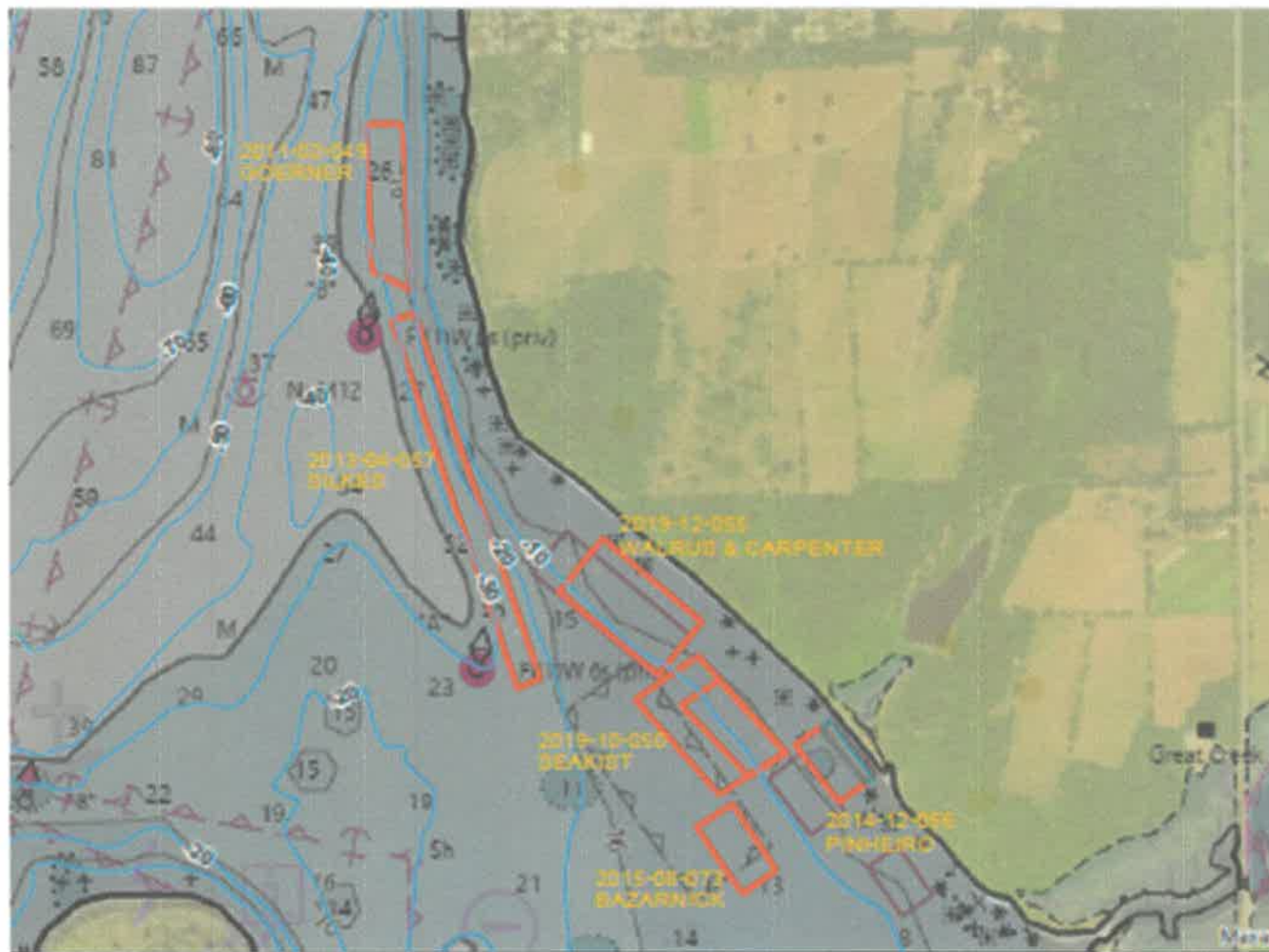
**Figure 3.** Total dollar value of all aquaculture products

## Farms & Acreage Under Lease



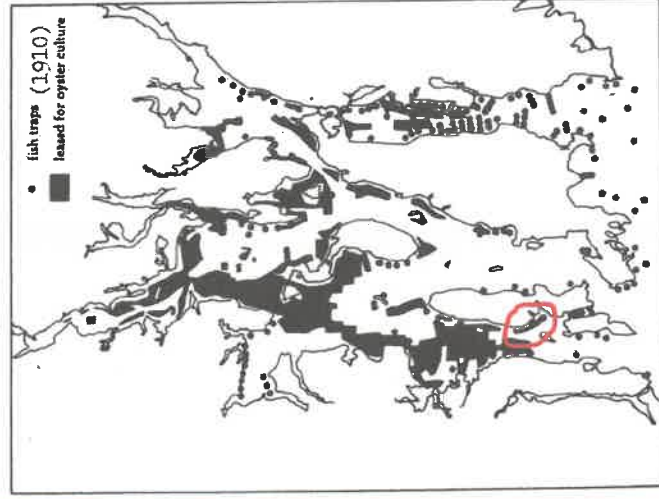


## DUTCH ISLAND HARBOR AQUACULTURE SITES



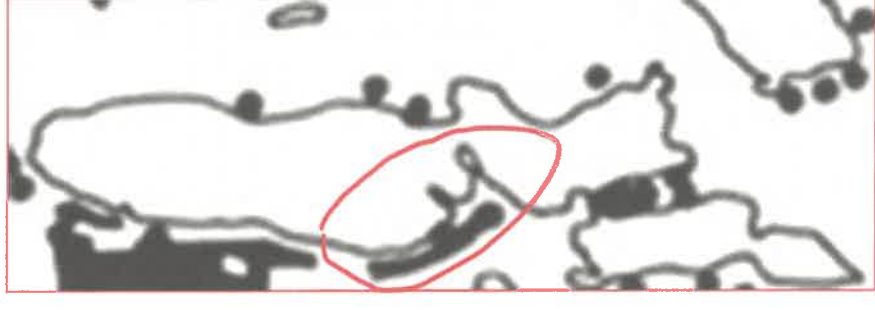
|             |                                    |            |
|-------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| 2011-02-049 | Bazzarnick<br>(Sweet Victory)      | 2.84 acres |
| 2014-12-056 | Pinheiro<br>(Sunset Beach)         | 2.06 acres |
| 2019-10-050 | Cregan & Papa<br>(Seakist)         | 8.58 acres |
| 2019-12-055 | Boehringer<br>(Walrus & Carpenter) | 7.82 acres |
| 2013-04-057 | Silkes<br>(Saltwater Farms)        | 8.39 acres |
| 2011-02-049 | Goerner                            | 5.04 acres |

# Oyster Aquaculture Leases and Fish Traps in Narragansett Bay 1910



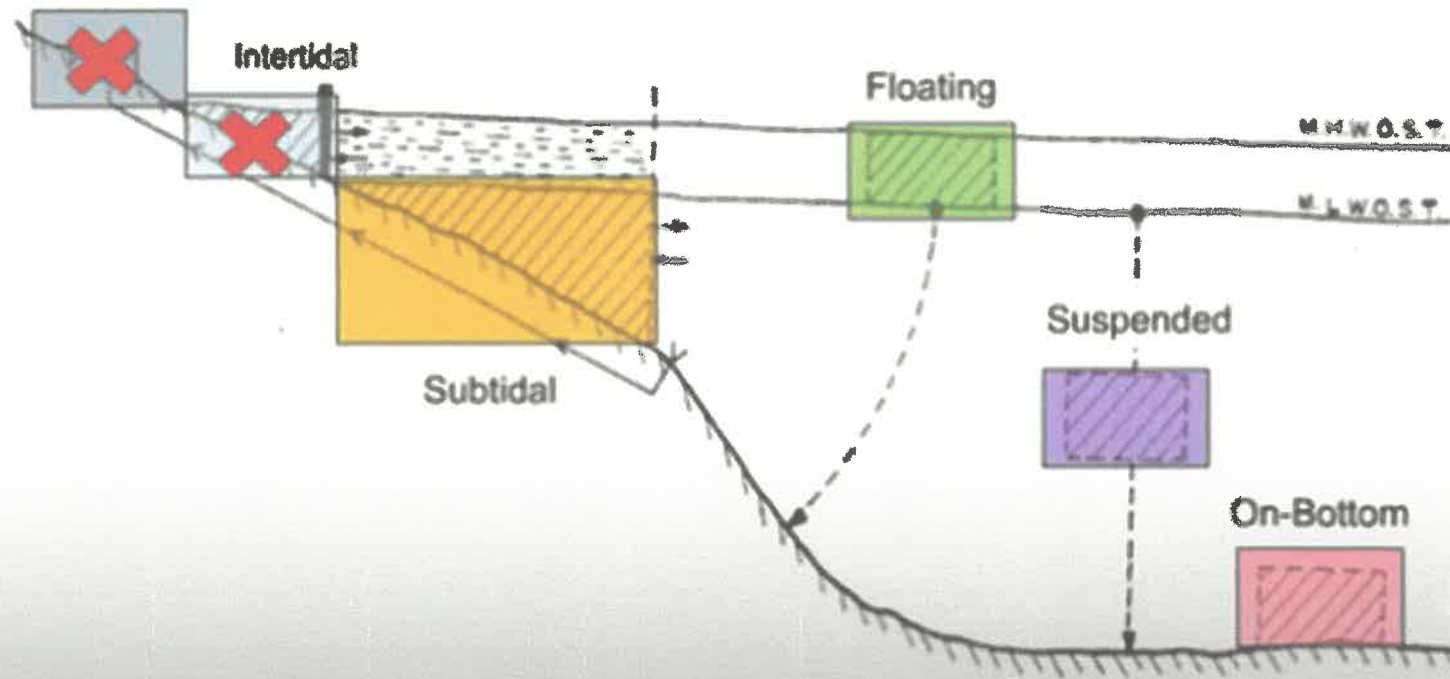
## *Features about early oyster aquaculture in RI*

- Peak 20,846 leased acres (1911)
- Peak production 1.4 million bushels live oysters & 1.3 million gallons of shucked meats (1908); worth >\$500M in today's dollars.
- “Mill Town” labor system similar to textile mills



# Shellfish grow-out strategies

Land-based



# Suspended Oyster Culture

## Shellfish in Mid-water – Hanging Cages





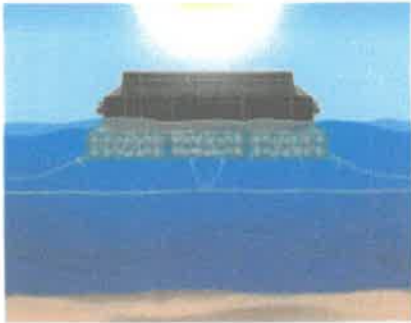
Mussel  
Culture



Sugar Kelp:  
an emerging  
industry



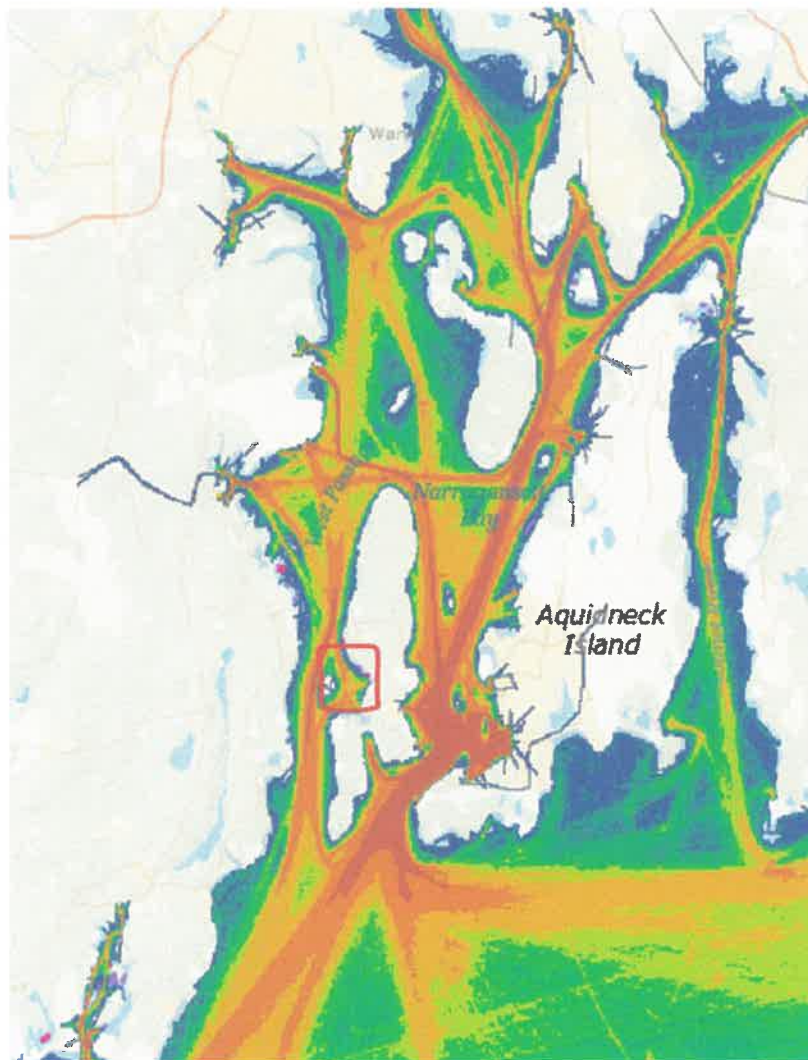
## Floating Gear



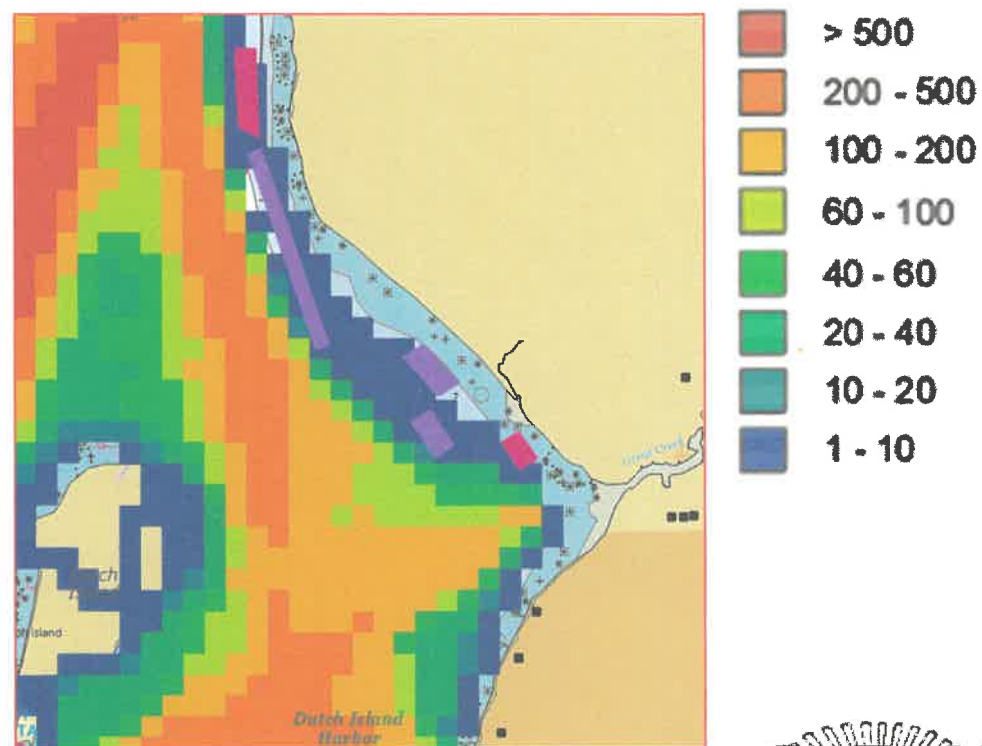
CRM C



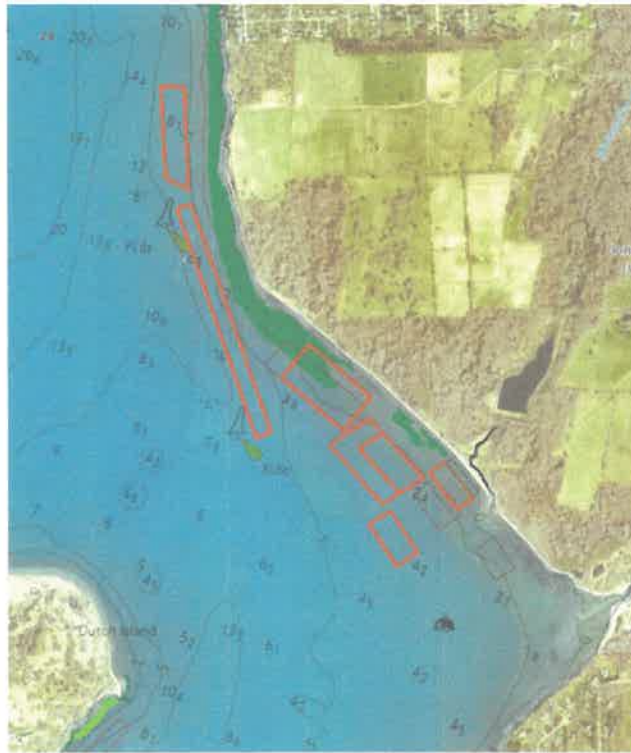
CRM C  
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



## All Vessel Transit Counts - 2022



## Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) i.e. Eelgrass (*Zostera marina*)



Proposed  
aquaculture leases  
may not be sited  
where eelgrass  
(*Zostera marina*) or  
widgeon grass  
(*Ruppia maritima*)  
exists.

# THE TOWN OF JAMESTOWN, RI HARBOR COMMISSION

## APPENDIX A-1: Waters Under the Jurisdiction of The Town of Jamestown

### Legend

- Jamestown Harbor Boundaries
- Proposed Mooring Areas
- Transient Zone
- Mooring Zone
- Conservation Zone
- Coastal Waters

0 1 2 Miles

The information depicted on this map is  
for illustrative purposes only.  
For legal boundary definition or regulatory  
interpretation please consult the Harbor  
Management Ordinance

Jamestown GIS Department

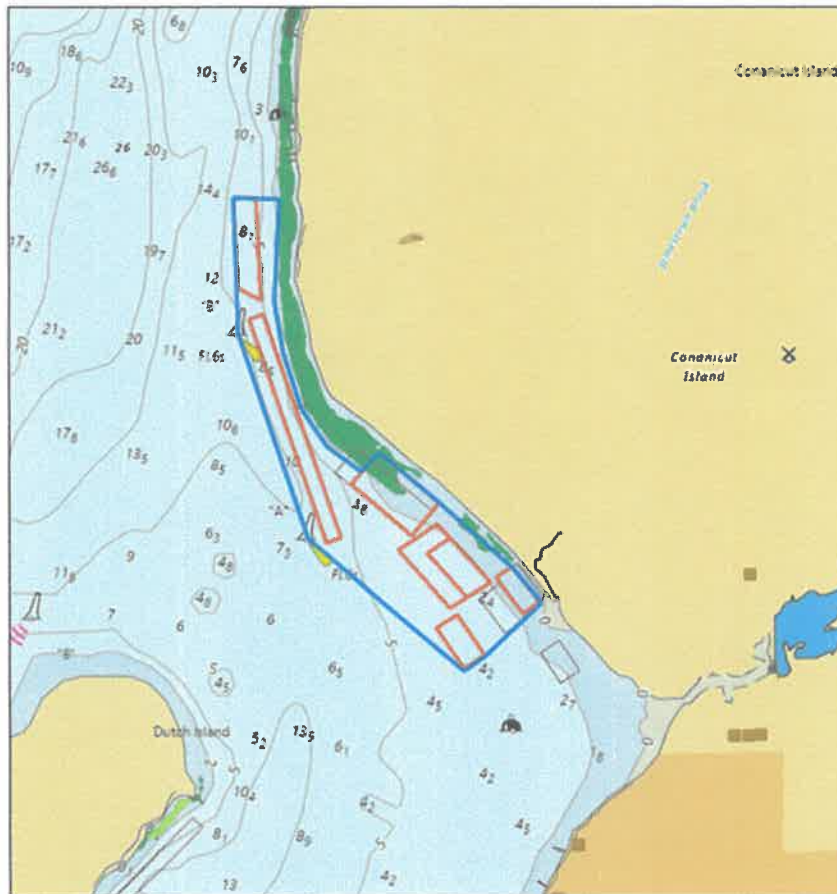


## Town of Jamestown Harbor Department

### Appendix A-5.16 West Ferry Anchorage Zone



## Dutch Is. Harbor Aquaculture Area



1/23/2024, 12:05:16 PM



NOAA NODC, East, Center, Main/Vue, East Community Maps Contributors, University of Rhode Island, East, Tan/Sun, Center, Bathymetry, GeoTechnology Inc, METRADA, USGS, EPA, MPB, US Census Bureau, USGS, USFWS, RI Division of Fish & Wildlife / Marine Fisheries / A&W Committee

## Considerations for future policies:

- Aquaculture Area is approx. 90 acres;
- 6 farms and 34.67 acres currently permitted within the area;
- Constraints to expanding area include:
  - vessel traffic traveling N/S from harbor;
  - Current eelgrass beds and historic habitat to the East nearshore;
  - Potential conflicts to the North and South (residences, anchorage, moorings);
- Areas around Dutch Island itself present challenges for applications based on habitat/hunting/rec. use;
- There appears to be room within the Aqua Area for more acreage, should it be reserved for existing farmers or new ones?

CRMC #2023-11-055

Reichman Preliminary Determination

Need to schedule meeting for Feb/March 2024

