

New Hampshire Marine Aquaculture License expansion

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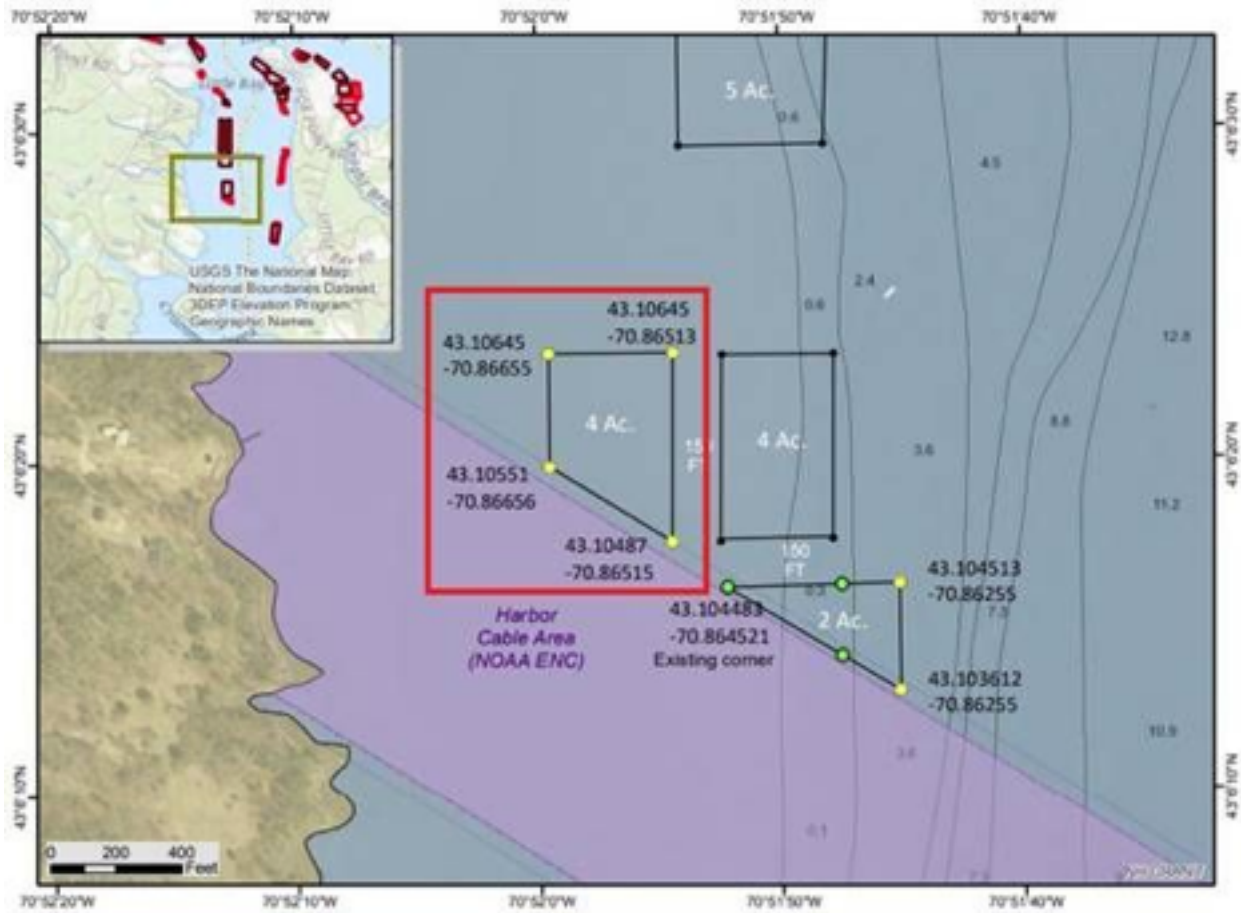
Site name: Little Bay West

Description of the Proposed Project

A. General methodology

I am seeking a 4 acre license in Little Bay to culture Eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*), Northern quahogs (*Mercenaria mercenaria*), soft-shelled clams (*Mya arenaria*) razor clams (*Ensis directus*), and Bay Scallops. The site is at least 150 feet away from the existing Hidden Coast Shellfish site. The site will be used to culture shellfish in condos, stacking trays, as well as bottom culture.

Site image:



B. Types of gear

Oysters will be grown in condos and trays that will be submerged under water at low tide. Oysters will also be grown on the bottom and raked up with bull rakes. Clams will be planted on the bottom and covered with plastic mesh to keep predators away. This mesh will also be submerged at low tide. Clams will also be harvested using rakes.

C. Site Location

Southwest coordinate:

43.10551, -70.86656 Southeast coordinate:
43.10487, -70.86515

Northwest coordinate: 43.10645, -70.86655

Northeast coordinate:

43.10645, -70.86513

Sediment Type:

The sediment consists of soft sand and mud.

Commercial Uses:

There are a few farms in the general area, but none within 150 feet of the proposed site. There are no other commercial uses in this area.

Navigational aspects:

The proposed farm is out of the channel line as well as the navigational buoy.

Recreational Uses:

I have been farming this area for about 5 years now. This site is basically a mud flat at low tide and is well

clear of that navigable channel in Little Bay. This way it does not impede with recreation in this area.

Zone Clearance”:

If approved, the site will be marked with corner buoys yellow in color with reflective tape. If necessary, a floating sign can be used to mark the site.

Type, size and configuration of gear:

- Mesh oyster bags or cages/trays will be secured by lines, and stakes directly on the bottom. Oyster cages or trays may also be used that are placed on the bottom approximately 48” x 36” x 16”(H).
- Bottom seeded clams and oysters will be spread on bottom and may be covered with mesh for predator protection. Harvesting will be by hand rake, tongs, towable rake, or other traditional hand tools.

Source of organisms to be used for project:

Oyster seed will only be acquired from approved hatcheries with certified disease free stocks. Alternatively 1 – 1.5 inch oysters will be acquired from existing approved operations in NH and

transferred to the proposed site. If purchased outside of NH, the primary hatchery for this site is listed below. Import permits will be obtained from NH Fish and Game prior to importation of any seed. In most cases advanced seed will be purchased from companies with a licensed upweller (located at Great Bay Marina) or reared on one of the permitted sites in NH before being moved to the proposed site.

Sources for stock: Muscongus Bay Aquaculture

Contact: Tonie Simmons P.O. Box
204

Bremen,

ME

04551

Phone - 207-529-4100 Fax - 207-529-4104

toniesimm@aol.com

Virgin Oyster Company, LLC

Contact: Brian Gennaco 19 Tuttle Lane

Dover, NH 03820 781-367-6294
bgennaco@gmail.com

Disposition of oysters during various phases of the project:

Oysters will be held in mesh bags or trays placed on the bottom. In the later phases of development oysters may be scattered free on the bottom and may be covered with protective netting. During winter months the gear and oysters within that gear will be moved to the deeper water section of the site to avoid ice damage.

List of any chemicals:

No toxic chemicals will be used at any time. No antibiotics will be used at any time.

Description of any restrictions on the public for use of the area proposed for the project:

Harvesting of cultured shellfish

Written statement to substantiate that the applicant either owns the land or has the owners' permission for use of the land or for access:

State-owned bottom land

List of all agencies to whom the copies of the complete application will be sent:

Shellfish Inspection & Licensing Division of Public Health Services

29 Hazen Drive Concord, NH 03301-6504

603-271-4589

Fax: 603-271-4859 Tdd Access: 1-800- 735-2964

foodprotection@dhhs.state.nh.s

**1. Wetlands Program NHDES Wetlands Bureau
c/o David Price NHDES Portsmouth
Regional Office Pease International
Tradeport
222 International Drive, Suite 175
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 559-1500**

**2. NH Port Authority
Geno Marconi**

**Director of Ports and Harbors 555 Market
Street Portsmouth, NH 03801 436-8550**

3. United States Coast Guard

**Sector Southeastern New England
Command Center 259 High Street South**

Portland, ME

04106-0007

508-457-3211

**4. Army Corps of Engineers USACE Regulatory
Division**

**c/o Richard Kristoff
NAE 696 Virginia Road Concord,
Massachusetts 01742
David.M.Keddell@usace.arm y.mil**

5. New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

Marine Fisheries Division

225 Maine St.

Durham, NH 03824

6. New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

Executive Director, Scott Mason

2 Hazen Dr.

Concord, NH 03301

* The EPA will be notified by Army Corps of Engineers if necessary

* I contacted NMFS and they do not need to be contacted directly. They will be notified by

List of Abutters

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MILLER TRUST, REGIS C 283 DURHAM POINT
ROAD DURHAM, NH 03824

12-1

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

780 NORTH COMMERCIAL ST MANCHESTER,
NH 03101 12-3
MILLER FAMILY REV TRUST 297 DURHAM
POINT ROAD
DURHAM, NH 03824

James J Mazur
295 Durham Point Road Durham, NH 038243

3. Benefits of Proposed Activities:

Oyster aquaculture can have a variety of environmental and economic benefits. Shellfish are efficient filter feeders, and are able to remove algae, suspended solids, and nutrients from the water column as they feed. A single oyster can clarify over 15 gallons of water per day. This simulates denitrification and improves light penetration helping species like eelgrass to recover. Shells and aquaculture structures provide habitat for juvenile fish, crabs and other organisms improving species diversity in the bay.

The culture of shellfish requires no feeds, herbicides, chemicals, or antibiotics. Shellfish farming is an economically and environmentally sustainable

industry for New Hampshire. The industry supports good stewardship of the bay and

waters. It also supports the local economy through creating local foods and jobs, but also supports marinas, wholesalers, restaurants, manufacturers, and a variety of other local businesses. Shellfish farming is a good local sustainable industry for New Hampshire.