

Informational Brief: Relating to Johnson/Scappatura Oyster Farm Application in Eastern Quonochontaug Pond

Christopher Johnson and Jen Scappatura of Peacdale, RI, have submitted a preliminary determination application to lease a 3-acre parcel within Quonochontaug Pond to construct and operate an oyster farm. The proposed farm would be located just east of Shady Harbor, along the northeast shoreline of the pond and would consist of a combination of submerged racks and floating cages. Based upon hand-line measurements by SPC board member Mark Bullinger, on November 26, 2014, it appears the water depth on the site is typically around six-feet at low tide. The applicants represent that their submerged

gear would extend about 15-inches above the bottom. If this were true, the submerged gear would likely be deep enough so as not to interfere with most navigation.

The applicants would also like to utilize floating cages, which would be visible on the surface at all times. Please see graphics below for more detail. The boundary of the lease would be marked with posts and small signs. This proposed plot is situated within the town of Charlestown, so there will be a hearing at the Charlestown Pond Commission meeting on January 5, 2015 at 7pm. See the SPC Calendar Page for more details.

For more information, please visit www.saltpondscoalition.org



Shady Harbor

Observed water depth (at several points around the site) during high tide on 11/26 was about 100". Expected depth at normal low would be 6-feet; at full/new moon low tide, 5-feet.

The application calls for two rows of floating tubs that are flipped from time to time to expose cages to sun. See below for detail.

The application calls for six rows of bottom cages and five rows of stackable trays. Application drawings indicate that bottom structures would be 12" to 13" high.

Picnic Rock





Figure VI - Feeding position - Positioned for (UV) profitable growth

Figure V - Prescribed exposure to sun and air controls secondary spat, predators and contaminants

Salt Pond Coalition informational briefs are intended to offer SPC members and other interested parties a graphical one-page overview of significant proposals that affect the salt ponds. Please visit the SPC website to view source documents, or contact Rhode Island Coastal Resources Council (CRMC).

Observations by SPC board member Mark Bullinger high tide 11-26-14

The application calls for two rows of floating Oystergro racks. Picture at left is an Internet image of what they look like on the water. The images above show how they are flipped at times to expose the oysters and cages to UV light. Read more at <http://oystergro.com/en/>