

EXPERIMENTAL LEASE APPLICATION

1. APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant	Caitlin Gerber	
Contact Person	Caitlin Gerber	
Address	329 North Road	
City	Chebeague Island	
State, Zip	Maine, 04017	
County	Cumberland	
Telephone	207-653-7129	
Email	Gerber_c@hotmail.com	
Payment Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check (included)	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card

Note: The email address you list here will be the primary means by which we will contact you. Please provide an email address checked regularly. If you do not use email, please leave this blank.

2. PROPOSED LEASE SITE INFORMATION

Location of Proposed Lease Site	
Town	Yarmouth
Waterbody	Casco Bay
General Description (e.g. south of B Island)	Southeast of Moser Island
Lease Information	
Total acreage (4-acre maximum) and lease term (3-year maximum) requested	Four acres, three-year term requested
Type of culture (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bottom (no gear) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suspended (gear in the water and/or on the bottom) <input type="checkbox"/> Net Pen (finfish)
Is any portion of the proposed lease site above mean low water?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Note: If you selected yes, you need to complete the steps outlined in the section titled: “17. Landowner/Municipal Permission Requirements”.

3. GROWING AREA DESIGNATION

Directions: Information for growing area designations can be found here:

<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/closures/index.html>

Growing Area Designation (e.g. “WL”):	WI
Growing Area Section (e.g. “A1”):	A

Note: If you are proposing to grow molluscan shellfish in waters classified as anything other than open/approved, you will need to contact the Bureau of Public Health to discuss you plans at the following email: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov

4. GENERAL LEASE INFORMATION

A. Please complete the table below and add additional rows as needed.

Name of species to be cultivated (include both common and scientific names):	Name and address of the source of seed stock or juveniles	Maximum number (or biomass) of organisms you anticipate on the site at any given time
1. Sugar Kelp (<i>Saccharina latissima</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	40,000 lbs
2. Skinny Kelp (<i>Saccharina angustissima</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	40,000 lbs
3. Winged Kelp (<i>Alaria esculenta</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)
4. Horsetail/Fingered Kelp (<i>Laminaria digitata</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)
5. Shotgun Kelp (<i>Agarum cribosum</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)
6. Dulse (<i>Palmaria palmata</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)
7. Irish Moss (<i>Chondrus crispus</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)

8. Nori/Laver (<i>Porphyra spp.</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)
9. <i>Gracilaria tikvahiae</i>	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)
10. Sea Lettuce (<i>Ulva lactuca</i>)	Atlantic Sea Farms 20 Pomerleau St. Biddeford, ME 04005	5,000 lbs (We are considering experimenting with this species, but Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp will be our primary grow out products)

B. Do you intend to possess, transport, or sell whole or roe-on scallops? Yes No

If you answered “yes” please contact the Bureau of Public Health to discuss your plans at the following email: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov

Note: If you are proposing to grow molluscan shellfish, this application also serves as your written operational plan as required in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Model Ordinance Chapter 2, and must be maintained in your files. If you wish to submit an operational plan separate from this application, please contact: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov

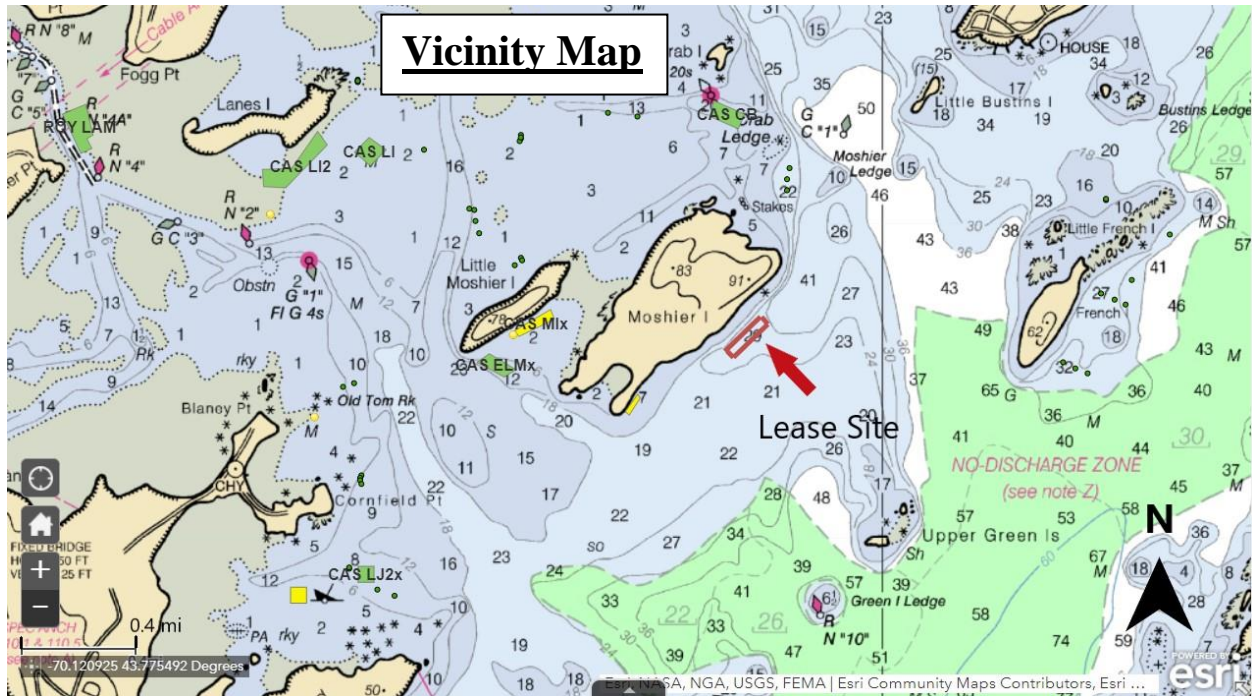
5. VICINITY MAP

Note: You may embed the maps within the document, or attach the maps to the end of your application. If you attach the maps, please label them according to the instructions provided below. If you attach the map, please label it: ‘Vicinity Map’.

Directions: Using a NOAA Chart or USGS topographic map, show the area within a minimum of one-half mile of the proposed lease site.

The map needs to display the following:

- The waters, shore lands, and lines of mean high and mean low water within the general area of the lease
- An arrow indicating true north
- A scalebar
- The approximate lease boundaries



Mean low water in lease site: 29ft

Mean high water in lease site: 38 ft

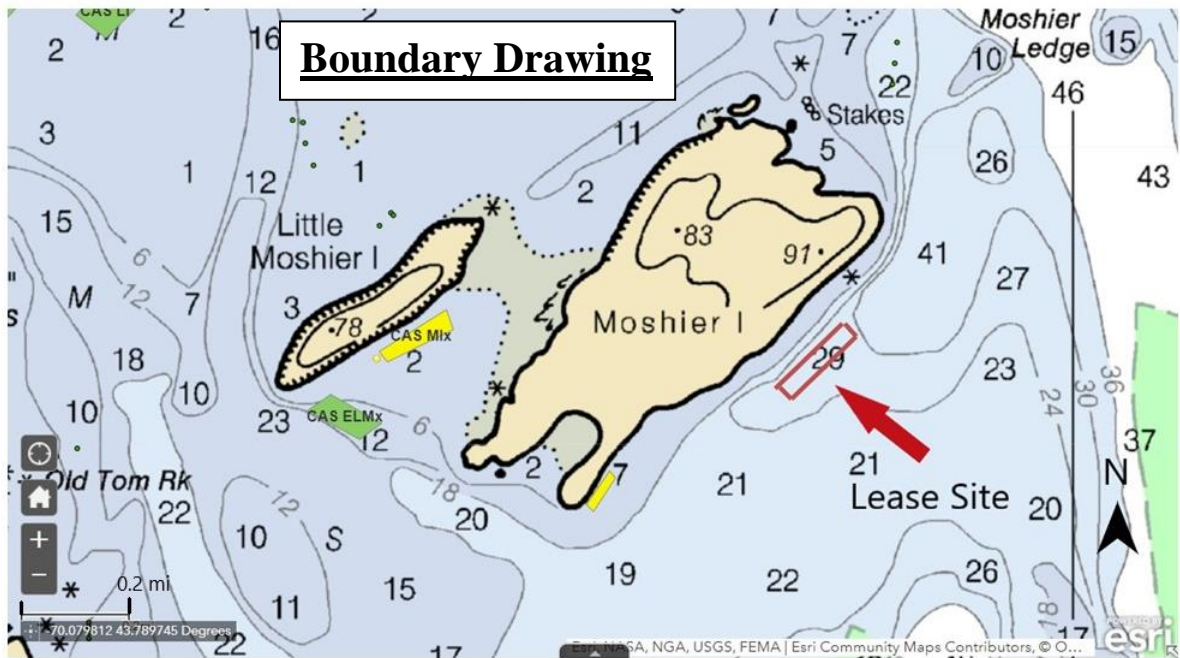
6. BOUNDARY DRAWING

Note: If you attach a drawing, please label it ‘Boundary Drawing’.

Directions: Depict the boundaries of the proposed lease site. Provide a drawing with all corners, directions, and distances labeled. Provide coordinates for each corner as follows:

- Coordinate Description

Provide geographic coordinates for each corner of the lease site in latitude and longitude as accurately as possible (e.g., to the nearest second or fraction of a second). Identify the datum from the map, chart, or GPS unit used to develop these coordinates. The datum will be shown on the map or chart you are using. The Coordinate Description may be provided separately from the Boundary Drawing.



Boundary Drawing Coordinates Datum WGS84:

NE corner: 43°46'55.21"N, 70° 5'29.60"W

NW corner: 43°46'56.52"N, 70° 5'31.09"W

SE corner: 43°46'48.85"N, 70° 5'39.97"W

SW corner: 43°46'50.22"N, 70° 5'41.29"W

7. RESEARCH PROGRAM AND OPERATIONS

Directions: If you are cultivating more than one species, you will need to provide the below information for each species. Please attach a separate page if needed.

A. Type of study (check one): Scientific Research Commercial Research

Please note:

a) Product grown on experimental leases for scientific research cannot be sold. Results of scientific research are not kept confidential.

b) Experimental leases for commercial research are not renewable. Results of commercial research are kept confidential.

B. What is the purpose of the study? If scientific, please include a detailed study design.

To determine the viability of the commercial seaweed growing location.

C. Describe the general culture process for each species proposed.

Kelp will be seeded on eight, 1000 ft horizontal long lines in the fall that sit seven feet below the surface. The site will be checked on a biweekly and as needed basis through the fall and winter to ensure all lines are in order and that growth is progressing. The kelp will be harvested in the spring prior to June 1.

D. What months will the proposed activities (i.e. seeding, tending, and harvesting) occur?

Seeding will occur after November 1st depending on seed stock availability. Seeding will take between two and four days to complete. Tending will occur between seeding and harvesting. Harvesting will occur starting in late March and go as late as through May.

All gear except for mooring blocks and lease corner markers buoys will be removed between June and October. Only mooring blocks and lease corner marker buoys will remain year-round.

E. How often will you be at the site during seeding and harvesting periods?

During seeding we will be at the site during daylight hours (except in the case of an emergency) for two to four days, depending on allowable weather conditions. During harvesting, we will be at the site during day light hours (unless in the case of an emergency) for up to two weeks, depending on allowable weather conditions.

F. How frequently will you visit/tend the site for routine maintenance (i.e. flipping cages, etc.)?

Between seeding and harvesting will visit the site at least every two weeks and following storm events to check the lines. There will be additional monitoring needed in the spring to look for fouling and to add counterweights to the culture lines as needed as the kelp grows.

G. Describe the harvesting techniques you will use. If you plan on using a drag, please provide the dimensions.

We will use a 40 ft H&H lobster style boat with a hauler or boom to hoist and kelp out of the water for harvest. There will be 2-4 crew members on board at any given time. The kelp will be cut off the lines by hand and placed in 1,000 lb bags. The lines and buoys will be cleaned and stored in barrels.

H. Describe any overwintering or “off season” plans for the site. For example, will you remove gear from the site and/or deploy gear in different areas within the proposed site? Please include where gear or product will be located if moved from the site.

From June 1st through October 31st only corner markers and mooring blocks will remain. All the removed gear will be stored on our land on Chebeague Island.

I. What type of machinery (e.g. generator, drag, grading equipment, etc.) will you be using on the site? When and how often will the machinery be used?

During seeding, grow out, and harvest we will use a lobster style boat to set out lines, inspect, and harvest the seaweed. We will inspect the lines during the winter from a 16', Lund as well.

J. Please provide details on any predator control techniques you plan to employ.

We do not plan to employ any predator control techniques.

K. Suspended culture gear can attract birds that roost on the gear and defecate, potentially creating a pollution source impacting shellfish held within the gear. In order to comply with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Model Ordinance (MO), DMR is requiring that applications for the suspended culture of shellfish include a description of mitigation or deterrent measures to minimize the potential pollution impacts of birds at the proposed site. If appropriate, include sketches or photos that clearly depict those measures put into practice.

Examples may include:

- Submerging suspended gear and associated product at a depth sufficient to deter roosting for two weeks before harvest
- Attaching physical deterrents (i.e. zip ties) to gear
- The site is proposed for the culture of seed only
- The site is proposed for the culture of adductor-only scallops (i.e. no other shellfish species would be grown on the site)
- Proposed gear would always be suspended below the surface of the water at a depth sufficient to deter roosting (i.e. as is common for scallop lantern nets)

Our lines will be suspended beneath the surface. We do not plan to deploy any bird deterrents.

8. EXISTING USES

Directions: Describe the existing uses of the proposed area. Please include the amount of activity, the time of year the activity occurs, frequency, and proximity to the lease site.

<p>A. Describe the existing uses of the proposed area in questions A.1 through A.5 below. Please include the a) type b) time of year c) frequency, and d) proximity to the lease site for each existing use.</p>
<p>1. Commercial Fishing</p>
<p>a. Lobster fishing and pogy fishing b. Late June and early July (pogy fishing goes a bit later) c. Infrequent, a small amount d. Nearby</p>
<p>2. Recreational Fishing</p>
<p>This is an exposed area during the summer months, so recreational fishing doesn't typically occur here.</p>
<p>3. Boating Activities (please also include the distance to any navigable channel(s) from your proposed site at low water)</p>
<p>a. Pleasure boating b. Mostly summer to early fall. Boats travel past this area, but it is a wide channel and the lease should not interfere with navigation. The Royal River typically freezes up during the winter and Bustins Island is not frequented during the winter so there will be little boat traffic coming and going from those places. c. Moderate, most to the east but it's a wide channel so lots of space to navigate in the area. d. Although there is very little boating activity in the proposed lease area in the active kelp growing/harvesting months, the site is surrounded by open water so most boating activity can occur in and around it though most recreational boaters travel southeast of the area by 100 feet or more.</p>
<p>4. Ingress and egress (i.e. coming and going) of shorefront property owners within 1,000 feet of the proposal (e.g. docks, moorings, landing boats on shore, etc.)</p>
<p>The local shorefront property owners utilize their homes mostly seasonally and have no docks on this side of the island. Therefore, this lease should not interfere with ingress and egress to their homes.</p>
<p>5. Other uses (kayaking, swimming, etc.)</p>
<p>Some kayakers paddle by this area but there is plenty of space to go around. No known swimming in the proposed lease area.</p>
<p>B. Are there private docks, moorings, or other access points within 1,000 feet of the proposed lease? If yes, please include approximate distance from proposed lease.</p>

None observed.

C. Are there public beaches, parks, or docking facilities within 1,000 feet of the proposed lease site. If yes, please describe and include approximate distances from proposed lease.

None

D. Are there any Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) licenses or aquaculture leases within 1,000 feet of your proposed lease site? If yes, please list their acronyms below.

Current and pending aquaculture leases and active LPA licenses may be found here:
<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/leases/index.html>

None

9. CURRENT OPERATIONS

Directions: If a question does not pertain to your proposed operations, please write “not applicable” or “N/A.”

A. Describe your existing aquaculture operations, including the acronyms of all active leases and/or licenses.

I have no other leases in my name. I'm a part owner of Chebeague Island Oyster Company which holds four LPAs in Chandlers Cove (LPAs WHIS112, WHIS213 and WHIS416 leases held by David Whiston; LPA REAR117 lease held by Robert Earnest), an experimental overwintering site northwest of Little Chebeague (CAS NLC3x lease holder Chebeague Island Oyster Company, LLC with contact Robert Earnest) and a Standard intertidal summer lease on the north shore of Little Chebeague (CAS LNC leaseholder Chebeague Island Oyster Company, LLC with contact Robert Earnest).

B. What are your plans for any existing leases and/or Limited Purposed Aquaculture (LPA) licenses if the lease is granted? Will any existing leases and/or Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) licenses be relinquished if the lease is granted? If so, please indicate which ones.

I have no other leases in my name. No changes to the other leases the Chebeague Island Oyster Company holds as it is a different entity.

10. EXCLUSIVE USE

If your lease is granted, what activities would you request be excluded from occurring within the boundaries of the lease site? In your answer please address applicable commercial and recreational fishing, boating activities, and other activities you listed in the 'Existing Uses' section of this application.

I would not request exclusive use.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERIZATION

Directions: Using your knowledge of the area, describe the environment of the proposed lease site. Be sure to include units of measurement in your answers (i.e. feet, cm/s).

A. What are the approximate depths at mean low water?

Twenty-nine feet.

B. What are the approximate depths at mean high water?

Approximately thirty-eight feet.

C. Provide the approximate current speed and direction during the ebb and flow.

Flood – NNE 0.5-1.5 knots
Ebb – SWW 1-2 knots

D. The following questions (D.1 through D.6) may be answered in writing or by submitting a video. If you plan to submit a video, please contact the Department prior to video collection.

1. What are the bottom characteristics (mud, sand, gravel, rock, ledge or some mix, etc.)?

There is mud bottom in this location.

2. Describe the bottom topography (flat, steep rough, etc.).

There is mostly flat bottom in this location.

3. Describe marine organisms by species or common names. Based on your personal observations or other sources of information, are these species abundant, common, or rare?

Some sand crabs, green crabs, some lobsters early in the season. Other small sub-tidal mollusks and shellfish can occasionally be found in this area.

4. Are there shellfish beds or fish migration routes in the surrounding area? If so, please describe.

No observed fish migration routes or shellfish beds in the surrounding area.

5. Describe the presence and extent of submerged aquatic vegetation, i.e. eelgrass, within the proposed lease area. Please include the date of this observation along with the method of observation. If submerged aquatic vegetation is observed, please also describe the abundance below and sketch the limits of the beds in the vicinity map.

According to Seth Barker's 2018 *Final Project and Data Report for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection*, there is no eel grass in this location. My husband lobsters in the area in June and says that the bottom is mud, no eel grass or other vegetation based on what comes up on the runners of the traps. Most recent observation was June 6, 2022.

6. Describe the general shoreline and upland characteristics (rocky shoreline, forested, residential, etc.)

Rocky shoreline, forested with a mix of softwood and hardwood trees typically found on islands in Casco Bay. Several seasonal houses along the shoreline but the island is not densely developed.

E. Is your proposed lease located within a Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife designated Essential Habitat?
 Yes No

Note: The location of Essential Habitats in the State of Maine, along with information on how projects within these areas are reviewed, can be found here: <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/endangered-threatened-species/essential-wildlife-habitat/index.html>

If a project is located within an Essential Habitat, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the MDIFW Environmental Review Coordinator (John.Perry@maine.gov, phone: 207-287-5254) prior to application submission.

F. Will your operations discharge anything into the water such as feed (pellets, kelp, etc.) or chemical additives (therapeutants, chemical treatments, etc.)?

Yes No

Note: If you answered yes, you must submit a video of the bottom using a method prescribed by the Department. **The video must be filmed between April 1 and November 15.** If a discharge is proposed you will also need to obtain a Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) discharge permit. For information on this permit please contact DEP’s Wastewater Licensing Program (Gregg.wood@maine.gov, 207-287-7693). Further sampling may be required by DMR, or DEP, depending on the characteristics of the site or the proposed activities.

12. STRUCTURES (if applicable)

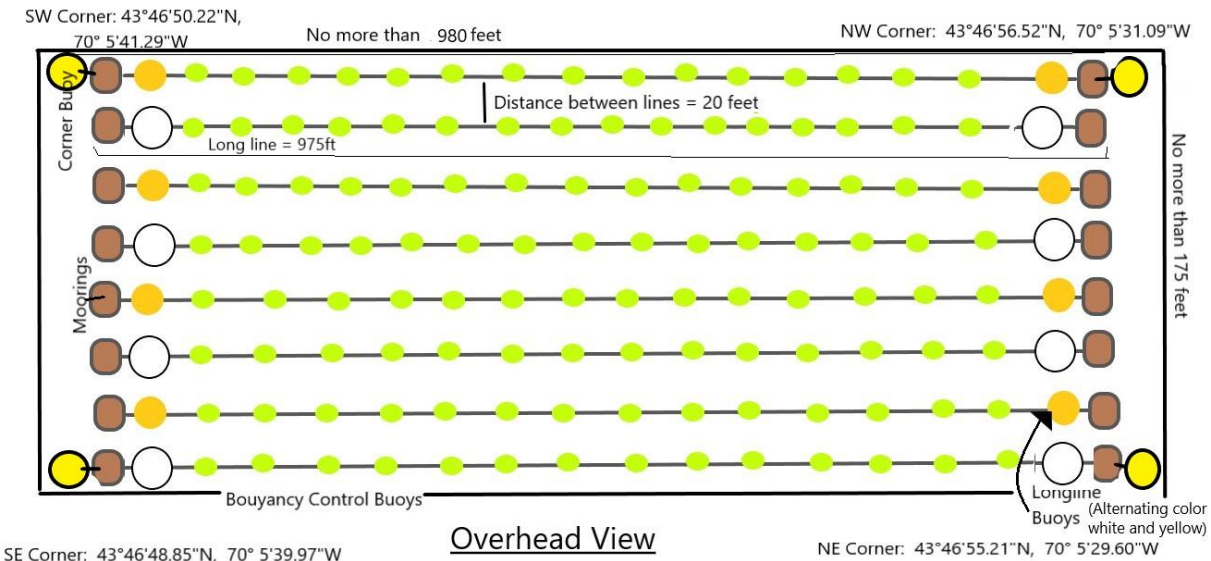
If your operations require the use of cages, nets, ropes, trays, or any object (structure) other than the organism to be grown directly on the bottom or buoys to mark the corners of the lease site, you must submit an **Overhead View** and **Cross-Section View** of your gear plans. It is important to note that, unlike Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) Licenses, experimental and standard leases require that all gear, including moorings, must be located within the proposed lease boundaries.

Note: You may embed the gear plans, or attach them to the end of your application. If you attach the plans, please label them according to the instructions provided below.

A) Overhead View (please label this “Overhead View”):

Directions: All dimensions need to be labeled with the appropriate units (i.e. 10ft, 10in)

- Show maximum layout of gear including moorings.
- Show dimensions of entire gear layout
- Show approximate spacing between gear.
- Show lease boundaries and the location of proposed markers on all drawings.

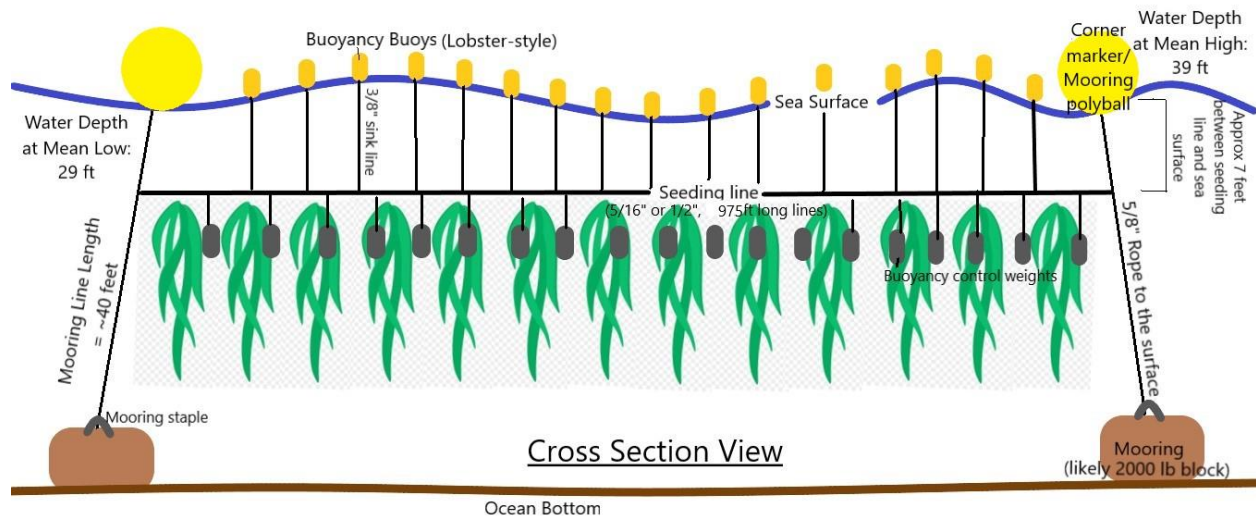


B) Cross-Section View (please label this “Cross Section View”):

Directions: The cross-section view must show the following:

- The sea bottom
- Profile of gear in cross-section as it will be deployed
- Label gear with dimensions and materials
- Show mooring gear with mooring type, scope, hardware, and line type and size
- Water depth at mean high and mean low water

Note: Please include an additional Cross Section View, depicting the elements listed above, if there will be seasonal changes to gear layout (i.e. over wintering).



C) Gear Description

Directions: List and describe each individual gear type that you will use in the table below.

Specific Gear Type (e.g. soft mesh bag)	Dimensions (e.g. 16"x20"x2")	Time of year gear will be deployed (e.g. Spring, Winter, etc.)	Maximum amount of this gear type that will be deployed on the site (i.e. 200 cages, 100 lantern nets, etc.)	Species that will be grown using this gear type
Long line	3/8" rope, each longline will be less than 975 ft in length	November through May	8	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp
Depth control buoys	Lobster style buoys made from Styrofoam and roughly 13"x6"	November through May	Up to 200	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp

Small weights for depth control	Window weights	November through May	Up to 200	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp
Sink rope for depth control buoys	3/8" diameter, 7' long	November through May	Up to 200	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp
Moorings	2000 lb cement block 3'x3'x18" with 3 links of 1" diameter chain for mooring staple	The moorings blocks will remain all year long.	16 – one on each end of the 8 longlines.	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp
Moorings Line	5/8" diameter by varying length	November through May	16	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp
Moorings markers	Hard-shell polyball, 16" diameter	November through May	16	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp
Corner buoys	Hard-shell polyballs (different color from mooring marker)	All year long	4	Sugar Kelp and Skinny Kelp

D) Gear Drawing (please label this “Gear Drawing”).

Directions: Include a drawing of an individual piece of gear for each of the gear type(s) you plan to use. The drawing(s) needs to depict the length, width, and height of each gear type with appropriate units referenced (i.e. 10in, 10ft, etc.).

13. MARKING

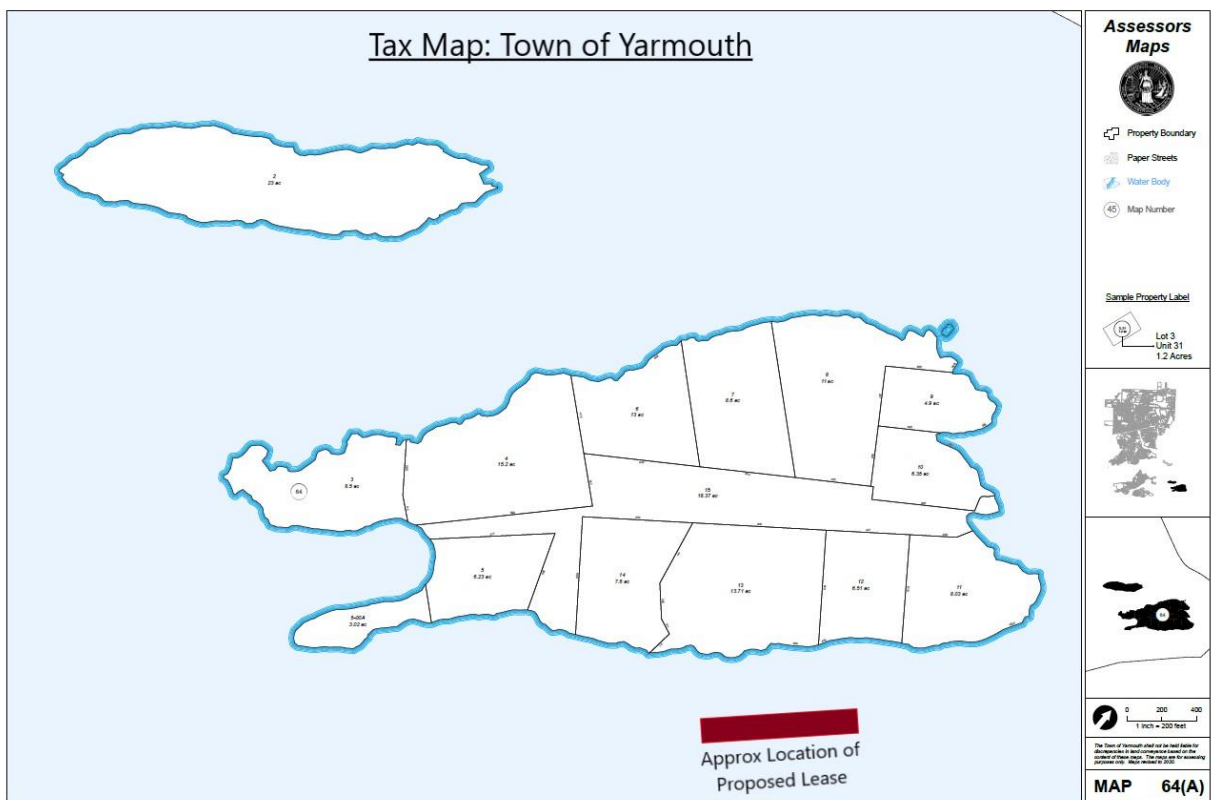
<p>Will you be able to mark your site in accordance with DMR regulations, Chapter 2.80? In part, this requires marker buoys which clearly display the lease ID and the words SEA FARM to be located at each corner of the lease.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If you answered no, explain why and suggest alternate markings.</p> <p>N/A</p>
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Note: If a lease is granted, you will also be required to mark the site in accordance with appropriate US Coast Guard Regulations. If you have questions about US Coast Guard regulations contact: 1st Coast Guard District, Aids to Navigation Office.

14. RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS AND SITE ACCESS

A. If your lease is within 1,000ft of shorefront land (**which extends to mean low water or 1,650 ft. from shore, whichever is less, according to NOAA charts**), the following supporting documents are required:

1. A labeled copy of a tax map(s) depicting the location of the proposed lease site and including the following elements:
 - Label the map “Tax Map: Town of (name of town).”
 - Legible scale
 - Tax lot numbers clearly displayed
 - The boundaries of the proposed lease



2. Please use the Riparian Landowner List (included on the next page) to list the name and address of every shorefront landowner within 1,000ft of the proposed lease site. Have the tax collector or clerk of the municipality certify the list. Refer to the riparian determination guidance document to ensure all riparian landowners are included:
<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/forms/documents/RiparianDetermination.pdf>

Note: When the application and riparian list are both ready to be submitted, you may choose to email a copy of the riparian list and proposed lease coordinates to DMRAquaculture@maine.gov for staff to verify that all required parcels are included on the list *before* having it certified by the municipality. DMR will not

verify a riparian list multiple times, so please ensure there will be no additional changes to the application before emailing the riparian list for verification.

3.If any portion of the site is intertidal you need to complete the steps outlined in “17. Landowner/Municipal Permission Requirements”.

B. Will your access to the lease area be across riparian land?

Yes No

Note: If you selected yes, you will need to complete the landowner permission requirements included in “17. Landowner/Municipal Permission Requirements” of this application.

C. How will you access the proposed site?

By either a 41 ft H&H Lobster boat (owned by my husband, Hank Whetham) or a 16’ Lund from Chebeague Island.

RIPARIAN LANDOWNER LIST

*THIS LIST MUST BE **CERTIFIED** BY THE TOWN CLERK*

On this list, please include the map number, lot number, and the current owners' names and mailing addresses for all shorefront parcels within 1,000 feet of the lease site. It is the applicant's responsibility to assemble the information for the Town Clerk to certify. The Town Clerk *only* certifies that the information is correct according to the Town's records. Once you have completed the form, ask the Town Clerk to complete the certification section below. If riparian parcels are located within more than one municipality, provide a separate, tax map and certified riparian list for each municipality.

TOWN OF: Yarmouth

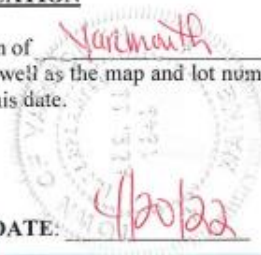
MAP #	LOT #	Landowner name(s) and address(es)
64A	11	Stephen P. Clark and Elaine C. Balutis PO Box 503 South Freeport, ME 04078
64A	12	Stephen Hutnak 22 Coveside Rd Cumberland Foreside, ME 04110
64A	13	Ingrid Thomas PO Box 89 South Freeport, ME 04078
64A	14	Ingrid Thomas PO Box 89 South Freeport, ME 04078
64A	15	Charles P. Harriman and Ingrid Thomas 98 Field Rd Falmouth, ME 04105

Please use additional sheets if necessary and attach hereto.

CERTIFICATION

I, Ruth A. Bennett ^{Deputy}, Town Clerk for the Town of Yarmouth certify that the names and addresses of the property owners listed above, as well as the map and lot numbers, are those listed in the records of this municipality and are current as of this date.

SIGNED: Ruth A. Bennett Deputy DATE: 4/20/22



15. ESCROW ACCOUNT OR PERFORMANCE BOND

Check the category that describes your operation:

Check Here	Lease Category	Amount of Required Escrow or Performance Bond
<input type="checkbox"/>	No gear/structure, no discharge	None
<input type="checkbox"/>	No gear/structure, discharge	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	≤ 400 square feet of gear/structure, no discharge	\$1,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	>400 square feet of gear/structure, no discharge	\$5,000.00*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gear/Structure, discharge	\$25,000.00

*DMR may increase the bond/escrow requirements for leases with more than 2,000 feet of structure.

I, (printed name of applicant) Caitlin Gerber have read DMR Aquaculture Regulations 2.64(12)(B)) and if this proposed lease is granted by DMR I will either open an escrow account or obtain a performance bond, depending on the category of lease.

Caitlin A Gerber
Applicant Signature

Note: Add title if signing on behalf of a corporate applicant.

6/17/2022
Date

ADDITIONAL APPLICANTS: Each applicant must sign this section indicating that they will open an escrow account or obtain a performance bond. Use the space below for additional persons listed on the application. You may attach additional pages, if necessary.

I, (printed name of applicant) _____ have read DMR Aquaculture Regulations 2.64(10)(D) and if this proposed lease is granted by DMR I will either open an escrow account or obtain a performance bond, depending on the category of lease.

Applicant Signature
Note: Add title if signing on behalf of a corporate applicant.

Date

16. APPLICANT SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby state that the information included in this application is true and correct. I have also read and understand the requirements of the Department's rules governing aquaculture and the application instructions pertaining to the experimental lease process.

Printed name: Caitlin Gerber

Title (if corporate applicant): _____

Signature: Caitlin A Gerber Date: 6/17/2022

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

Note:

- All applicants must sign and date this page. Please use the space below, if additional signatures are required.
- Corporate applicants, please be sure to include the title (i.e. President, Treasurer, etc.) of the individual(s) signing on the company's behalf.

17. LANDOWNER/MUNCIPAL PERMISSION REQUIREMENTS (if applicable)

PART I: The use of private property to access your site.

Pursuant to 2.64(C)(6) if you are using private property to access the proposed lease site, you need to submit written permission from the property owner with your application. It is your responsibility to obtain written permission. Please note that the Department does not provide forms for landowner or municipal permission. **If any portion of your site is also intertidal you will need to complete the steps outlined in Part II, below.**

PART II: If any portion of the site is intertidal you need to complete the following steps:

Step I: Obtain written permission from all intertidal landowners.

Pursuant to 2.64(C)(6) the Department requires *written permission of every owner of intertidal land in, on, or over which the experimental activity will occur.* It is your responsibility to obtain written permission and include it with your application materials. Please note that the Department does not provide forms for landowner permission.

Step II: Determine if the municipality where your site is located has a shellfish conservation program.

Pursuant to 12 MRSA §6072(3) *In any municipality with a shellfish conservation program under section 6671, the Commissioner may not lease areas in the intertidal zone within the municipality without the consent of the municipal officers.*

If the municipality where the proposed lease site is located has a shellfish conservation program, it is your responsibility to obtain consent for the proposed lease site from the municipal officers (i.e. the selectmen or councilors of the town, or the mayor and aldermen or councilors of a city.) Consent means a majority vote of the municipal officers as recorded in a public meeting.

It is your responsibility to contact the municipality and determine if they have a shellfish conservation program. Best practices would include discussing your plans with shellfish committee members, but only the consent of municipal officers is required.

1. Does the municipality, where the proposed site is located, have a shellfish conservation program? Yes No

If you answered yes, please attach documentation from a public meeting demonstrating that a majority of municipal officers have consented to your proposal.

April 26, 2022

Dear DMR Aquaculture,

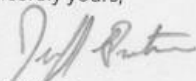
I am writing in support of Caitlin Gerber's experimental lease application for kelp near Moshier Island, Chebeague Island. I am a lifelong resident of Chebeague, and a commercial fisherman. I fish for lobsters, scallops, menhaden and I have LPA leases for oysters.

I recognize the importance of aquaculture for the future of coastal Maine residents and as a diversification opportunity for fishing families. Kelp aquaculture is unique in that the growing season takes place during a time in which most of the inshore lobstering has come to an end. When kelp lines and gear are deployed most of the lobster gear in this area has moved to deeper water or has been taken up for the season.

Caitlin's proposed lease does not interfere with lobster fishing. The area that her lease is sited on is not an area that is productive to lobstering during the kelp growout season. I have seen over the last few years that kelp farming sites and lobster fishing activities can coexist well in Casco Bay.

Caitlin has worked closely with area lobstermen including myself to locate this site in an area that does not interfere with existing users. It is my hope that kelp farming and other aquaculture will allow the current and future residents of Casco Bay Islands to sustainably harvest seafood.

Sincerely yours,



Jeff Putnam

April 25, 2022

Memo to: Department of Marine Resources, Aquaculture Division

From: Bob Earnest

Re: Application for seaweed lease by Caitlin Gerber of Chebeague Island

Just a quick note to express support for Caitlin's seaweed lease application. I've worked with Caitlin on our oyster farm for almost 8 years, and have, therefore, been able to see how effectively she works on the water, how professionally she approaches the business end of things, and above all, the degree to which she puts stewardship – of the bay, the resource, and the community, at the forefront of her work.

I would also point out that, as a marine biologist, Caitlin has brought a valuable science orientation to our oyster work; I know she would do the same with her seaweed farm.

I hope her application receives positive review from the Aquaculture Division.

Sincerely,

Robert Earnest
Chebeague Island, Maine

April 26, 2022

Dear DMR Aquaculture,

I am writing in support of Caitlin Gerber's experimental lease application for kelp southeast of Mosher Island. I fish for lobsters and pogy fish in this section of Casco Bay and I am a Yarmouth resident.

Caitlin and her family are experimenting with various types of aquaculture and I believe that the future of coastal working families lies in this type of diversification. Caitlin has worked hard to consider and respect other marine uses and navigation in the area and have chosen a site that does not interfere with lobstering or pogy-fishing activity. Furthermore, the growing season for kelp does not conflict with the lobster fishing season as most gear has been moved offshore or out of the water altogether by early November. I believe that they have chosen a wise location to grow kelp.

Sincerely,

John Jordan

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