



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
21 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0021

PATRICK C. KELIHER
COMMISSIONER

Date: October 5, 2021

To: Town of Frenchboro, and Jay Fiandaca, Harbormaster
Riparian (shorefront) landowners within 1,000 ft. of proposed aquaculture lease site
MDFIW, DEP, and DACF
GovDelivery Aquaculture Mailing List

From: Department of Marine Resources (DMR), Aquaculture Division

Re: Notice of Scheduled Aquaculture Lease Hearing

DMR is holding one public hearing to take evidence on two renewal applications for the standard lease sites listed below:

Lease Acronyms	SWAN BI and SWAN BIS
Lease Holder	Cooke Aquaculture USA, Inc.
Culture Type	Net Pen Culture
General Location, waterbody, Town	Off Black Island in Frenchboro
Renewal Term Requested	20 Years

The public hearing on these applications has been scheduled as follows:

NOVEMBER 8, 2021
4:00 P.M.
SOUTHWEST HARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT
250 MAIN STREET
SOUTHWEST HARBOR

If the public hearing listed above is postponed or continued, an alternate public hearing(s) will be held on **November 9, 16, and 17, 2021** at the same time and location. Notice of a postponement or a continuance will be posted on DMR's website. DMR is also offering a remote participation option, which is intended for Frenchboro residents who may be unable to travel to Southwest Harbor. Details about remote participation are included in the online registration form.

REGISTERING FOR THE HEARING: The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the adjudicatory proceeding provisions of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (5 M.R.S.A., ch. 375, subchapter 4). The purpose of this hearing is to gather evidence and testimony specific to the lease renewal criteria. Persons who attend the hearing may have the opportunity to ask questions of the parties or testify under oath about the criteria specific to lease renewals.

Due to COVID and capacity limitations, anyone wishing to attend the hearing in-person is asked to register with DMR in advance so that space availability can be determined. **Persons intending to ask questions of the parties or testify under oath about the proposed lease renewal**, whether they intend to attend the hearing in-person or remotely, **must register with DMR to participate in this manner.**

Interested persons must register no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 24, 2021. Failure to register may limit your ability to participate in the proceeding. Persons who are unable to register online or need assistance with the form need to contact DMR.

Online registration can be completed at: <https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/meetinglist.html>.

INTERVENING: Applications to intervene must be received by DMR no later than **5:00 p.m., October 24, 2021.** DMR will decide whether to grant intervenor applications five days before the hearing. If you are granted intervenor status, you become a legal party to the proceeding. See the contact information below to request an intervenor application from DMR. You do not need to be an intervenor to participate in the proceeding.

INFORMATION ON DMR's WEBSITE: The respective lease applications are available at: <http://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/leases/pending/index.html>

Address questions to:
Maine Department of Marine Resources
(207) 624-6573
DMRaquaculture@maine.gov

For disability accommodations, contact Melissa Macaluso at:
(207) 624-6553, Melissa.Macaluso@maine.gov; or 877-243-2823, TTY 711

RELEVANT AUTHORITY: The rules governing the leasing program are found in Chapter 2 of DMR regulations. The statutory provisions are: 5 M.R.S.A. §9501 et seq. & 12 M.R.S.A. §6072(1) et seq., & 12 M.R.S.A. §6072-A(1) et seq.