

Deemed Complete 06.16.2026

EXPERIMENTAL LEASE APPLICATION**1. APPLICANT INFORMATION****A. CONTACT PERSON**

Legal Name of Applicant(s):	Joe Cutts
Contact Person:	Joe Cutts
Email:	jcuttsvt@gmail.com
Telephone:	802-238-3423

B. MAILING ADDRESS

Street Address:	PO Box 190
City:	Friendship
State:	ME
Zip Code:	04547

C. PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Same as mailing address

Street Address:	114 Friendship Long Island
City:	Friendship
State:	ME
Zip Code:	04547

D. PAYMENT METHOD

<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit Card
--

E. PENDING APPLICATIONS

How many pending experimental lease applications (including this one) do you have pending?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Two (2) <i>Note: An applicant may have no more than two pending experimental leases at any time.</i>
Do you have a legal interest in any entity that has a pending experimental application?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, provide the name of the applicant(s):	

2. PROPOSAL INFORMATION**A. LOCATION OF PROPOSED LEASE SITE**

Town:	Friendship
County:	Knox
Waterbody:	Morse's Bay
General Description:	East end of Friendship Long Island

B. PROPOSED LEASE INFORMATION

Total Acreage Requested:	.66 acres
Lease Term Requested:	3 years
Type of Culture: (Check all that apply)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suspended (gear in the water and/or on the bottom) <input type="checkbox"/> Bottom (no gear)

C. INTERTIDAL SITE

Is any portion of the proposed lease site above mean low water?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
--	---

If you checked 'yes' you will need to complete section 11(J) of this application.

D. RESEARCH PROGRAM

Type of Study: (Check one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific Research <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Research
--------------------------------------	---

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

3. INTERAGENCY REVIEW INFORMATION

Lease applications are reviewed by other state and federal agencies. The questions below are intended to assist them with the review of your application.

A. Is the proposed lease site located within any of the following habitat designations/areas? Check all that apply.
<input type="checkbox"/> Essential Habitat (includes Roseate Tern habitat and Piping Plover/Least Tern habitat) <input type="checkbox"/> Shorebird Area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tidal Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat

B. Provide the water depth at mean high water.
approx. 18-24 feet

C. Provide the water depth at mean low water.
approx. 8-14 feet

D. Are you proposing to use any suspended gear?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, will the gear be submerged (below the surface of the water) at all tidal stages?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

E. Are you proposing predator netting?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, what is the mesh size?	
If yes, what is the twine size?	

F. Is the proposal within 1,000 feet of any of the following? Check all that apply. If you select one or more boxes you also need to provide the requested information that follows.
<input type="checkbox"/> Docking facility owned by federal, state, or municipal governments <input type="checkbox"/> Beach owned by federal, state, or municipal governments
Provide the name of the docking facility and/or beach:
Proximity of the respective property to the proposed lease site in feet:

Select which level of government owns the respective property:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal	
Provide the name of the government entity that owns the respective property:	

G. Is any portion of the proposal within a marked navigational channel?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If no, how far is the proposal from the nearest marked navigational channel? Provide the distance in feet.	Located approx. 500 feet southwest of the main navigational channel and about 900 feet southwest of red navigational buoy "6".

H. Is the proposed site within 1,000 feet of any federal navigation project or anchorage?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, identify the project or anchorage:	

I. Will your operations discharge anything into the water such as feed (pellets, kelp, etc.) or chemical additives (therapeutants, chemical treatments, etc.)?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

4. ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERIZATION

The observations for all categories except ice formation must be based on an assessment conducted between April 1 and November 15, dates inclusive. Observation dates outside this timeframe will not be accepted.

A. Describe the observed bottom characteristics of the proposed lease site:	Gently sloping from west to east; generally featureless mud.
Date of Observation:	Yearround observation, as recently as Fall 2025
B. Provide the speed of current:	Less than 1 knot
Date of Observation:	Fall, 2025
C. Provide the direction of current:	NW (flood), SE (ebb)
Date of Observation:	Fall, 2025
D. Describe the fauna (animals) you have observed in the area:	Seal, hermit crab, crab, hard clam, blue mussel, green crab, rock gunnel, gulls, terns, osprey, eagle, numerous other waterfowl.
Date of Observation:	Fall 2025
E. Describe the flora (plants) you have observed in the area:	No bottom plants observed in the proposal itself. Nearby: Rockweed, sea grass.
Date of Observation:	Fall 2025

F. Have you observed eelgrass within the boundaries of the proposed site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Date of Observation:	August, 2025
Method of Observation:	Mask and snorkel, and from boat
G. Have you observed eelgrass within 1,000 feet of the proposed site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Date of Observation:	Many summers, including August 2025
Method of Observation:	Visible from boat at low water.

H. Describe ice formation during the winter months within the proposed lease boundaries. The description needs to include data such as water temperature or ice out date over a 10 ten-year period or at least 5 years of observations from the harbormaster, shellfish warden, harbor committee, Marine Patrol Officer, or fishing community. Stating “no ice observed” will not be accepted as an answer.

I have observed no ice on the proposed site in 10 years of occasional winter visits. Nevertheless, I have designed my farm with ice in mind: all gear will be removed or sunk by mid-November, with the exception of a work float designed for wet storage, which will remain on the lease as conditions permit. The nearest commercial lobster fishing wharf is Bramhall’s Lobster, about .7 miles north, just inside the harbor. Co-owner Jason Simmons reports that in 2015, Friendship Harbor froze solid, the only time he can remember such a hard freeze in his 40 years of fishing. He doubted that the ice then reached as far offshore as the proposed lease but couldn’t be sure. The only ice I have seen is skim ice at the top of the cove located 1000 feet south of the proposal. That has never presented a barrier to navigation in my skiff, but I do know from my great-aunt’s journals that in unusually cold winters the cove may indeed freeze over hard enough to prevent access to my wharf.

5. SOURCE OF STOCK AND WATER QUALITY

A. SPECIES AND SOURCE OF STOCK

Please use the applicable tables below to list all species you intend to cultivate on the proposed site.

1. Source of Stock: Approved Shellfish Hatchery or Non-Shellfish Stock List

If you are sourcing from an approved hatchery or entity included on the non-shellfish stock list (maintained by DMR), please use the table below.

	Common Name	Latin Name	Name of Source	Stocking Density
1.	Eastern oyster	Crassostrea virginica	Muscongus Bay Aquaculture	1 million
2.	Eastern oyster	Crassostrea virginica	Mook Sea Farm	1 million
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

2. Source of Stock: Other Aquaculture Site(s)

If you are sourcing from another aquaculture site in coastal waters please complete the table below.

	Common Name	Latin Name	Aquaculture Site ID	Water Body	Original Point of Origin	Stocking Density
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						

3. Source of Stock: Wild Stock

If you are collecting marine organisms from Maine's coastal waters for deployment on the proposed site complete the table below.

	Common Name	Latin Name	Waterbody Collected From	Name of Licensed Harvester	Stocking Density
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					

4. Scallops

Do you intend to possess whole or roe-on scallops?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<p>If you answered ‘yes’ please be aware that biotoxin testing will have to be conducted on a regular basis at your expense. Please contact the Bureau of Public Health to discuss your plans at the following email: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov</p>	

B. GROWING AREA CLASSIFICATION

Growing Area Designation	WT(A)
Growing Area Classification	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Prohibited
<p>If you are proposing to grow molluscan shellfish in waters classified as anything other than open/approved, you must contact: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov</p>	

C. BIRD DETERRENTS

<p>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. Use the space below to list your mitigation or deterrent measures:</p>
<p>Sturdy zip-tie bristles on racks containing oysters that are at or near full growout. Fully submerged wet storage for market-ready product.</p>

6. PROPOSED OPERATIONS

A. CULTIVATION METHODS AND GEAR

1. How will you culture marine organisms?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gear <input type="checkbox"/> Bottom planting only (no gear proposed) <input type="checkbox"/> Combination: Both gear and free planting
--	---

2. Gear and Moorings Table

Use the table below to list all gear, longlines, moorings, and buoys that will be deployed within the boundaries of the proposed lease site.

Gear/Mooring Type	Dimensions	Dates of deployment	Maximum number deployed on site	Color	Species that will be grown using this gear type
OysterGro (or similar) 4-bag cage	41x39x36"	Yearround (submerged in winter)	200	black	Eastern oyster
"Sea Farm" corner buoy	16" round	Yearround	4	yellow	Eastern oyster
Bags, semi-rigid plastic mesh	18x36x3"	Yearround	800	black	Eastern oyster
Longline mooring: 75-pd. mushroom, chain, shackles	30x18x12"	Year-round	28	red/rust	Eastern oyster
Longline rope	3/8 poly floater	May-Nov.	28	black, red, yellow, purple	Eastern oyster

3. If you are also free planting, please provide the following:

List all species that would be free planted	
Describe the areas of the proposed site where free planting would occur. If it is the entire site, specify accordingly.	

4. On Site Activity

At maximum capacity, which days of the week do you anticipate being on the site?	Mon.-Sun.
At maximum capacity, what is the earliest time of day you would start work on the site?	sunrise
At maximum capacity, what is the latest time you would end work on the site?	sunset
What months will seeding occur?	June-July
What is the maximum number of days it will take to seed the site?	10
Describe tending and maintenance activities:	Fetching bags from cages, working through them on work float, replacing bags. Occasionally flipping cages for drying/defouling. Seasonally, removing all gear in the late fall, replacing it in spring.
What months will harvesting occur?	May-February
How will you harvest each species? If you are using a drag, provide the dimensions.	By hand from bags

5. Seasonality

Are there any seasonal changes to gear deployment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, please describe:	All gear submerged or removed for winter, with exception of work float, which may remain as conditions permit.

B. MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTING

1. Are you proposing to use motorized equipment on the proposed lease?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Are any of the noise sources fixed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. If yes, describe your plan to direct the noise from residences or areas of routine use on adjacent land:	Electric trolling motor only. Mounted on work float under sound-proofing box; for pushing water through seed. June-August. Noise will not carry to adjacent land.
4. Does any of the equipment contain exterior lighting?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
5. Describe the measures taken to ensure that exterior lighting on the equipment only illuminates the target area and reduces glare:	
6. Describe the measures taken to mitigate light impacts from equipment:	
7. Are you proposing to use a generator?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
8. What is the generator used for?	
9. What type of fuel does the generator take?	<input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:

10. Which months would you use the generator? If year-round, specify accordingly.	
11. What is the maximum number of days the generator would be used each year?	
12. Which days of the week will the generator be used?	
13. What are the maximum hours a day the generator would be used?	
14. Do you intend to use a generator designed to mitigate noise?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
15. What measures will you take to mitigate noise from the generator?	

16. Motorized Equipment Table

Use the table below to list each piece of motorized equipment (excluding vessels) that is proposed and answer the associated questions. Attach additional answers as necessary.

1. Equipment Name	Seed nursery
What is the piece of equipment used for?	Containing and promoting growth of small seed.
Select the color(s) of this piece of equipment.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blacks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Browns <input type="checkbox"/> Blues <input type="checkbox"/> Greens <input type="checkbox"/> Other Please specify:

Does the piece of equipment have any exterior lights?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
How is this piece of equipment powered?	Solar electric
Which months would this piece of motorized equipment be used? If year round, specify accordingly.	June-August
What is the maximum number of days that this piece of motorized equipment would be used?	60
Which days of the week would this of motorized equipment be used?	Mon.-Sun.
What are the maximum hours a day that this piece of motorized equipment would be used?	24
What measures would be taken to mitigate noise from this piece of equipment?	Solar-powered electric trolling motor will be boxed in and running at lowest speed.
2. Equipment Name	
What is the equipment used for?	
Select the color(s) of this piece of equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Grays <input type="checkbox"/> Blacks <input type="checkbox"/> Browns <input type="checkbox"/> Blues <input type="checkbox"/> Greens <input type="checkbox"/> Other Please specify:
Does the piece of equipment have any exterior lights?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
How is this piece of equipment powered?	
Which months would this piece of motorized	

equipment be used? If year round, specify accordingly.	
What is the maximum number of days that this piece of motorized equipment would be used?	
Which days of the week would this of motorized equipment be used?	
What are the maximum hours a day that this piece of motorized equipment would be used?	
What measures would be taken to mitigate noise from this piece of equipment?	
3. Equipment Name	
What is the equipment used for?	
Select the color(s) of this piece of equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Grays <input type="checkbox"/> Blacks <input type="checkbox"/> Browns <input type="checkbox"/> Blues <input type="checkbox"/> Greens <input type="checkbox"/> Other Please specify:
Does this piece of equipment have any exterior lights?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
How is this piece of equipment powered?	
Which months would this piece of motorized equipment be used? If year round, specify accordingly.	
What is the maximum number of days that this piece of motorized equipment would be used?	
Which days of the week would this of motorized equipment be used?	
What are the maximum hours a day that this piece of motorized equipment would be	

used?	
What measures would be taken to mitigate noise from this piece of equipment?	

C. FLOATING STRUCTURES

1. Are you proposing any of the following? Check all that apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Work Float <input type="checkbox"/> Barge <input type="checkbox"/> Other structure. Please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Not proposing floating structure
2. Which months will the structure be within the boundaries of the proposed site?	Year-round, except storms
3. Describe the purpose of the structure:	Work space for sorting/cleaning/bagging/storage; wet storage bays, seasonal seed nursery, solar panel mounts, 4x6x7-foot rough-lumber storage shed with solar panels mounted to roof.
4. Provide the length and width in feet:	16x16 feet
5. Provide the height as measured from the water line:	16-20" to deck; 96-102" to top of solar panels mounted on storage shed.
6. Provide the construction materials:	Foam-filled plastic flotation billets; wood lumber
7. Select the color:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blacks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Browns <input type="checkbox"/> Blues <input type="checkbox"/> Greens <input type="checkbox"/> Other Please specify:
8. Does the structure contain exterior lighting?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
9. Describe the measures taken to ensure that exterior lighting on the structure only illuminates the target area and reduces glare:	
10. What measures would you take to mitigate light impacts from the structure?	

D. BUILDINGS

1. Are you proposing a shed, building or other similar structure?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, what is the building, shed, or similar	Solar panel mount; storage for electrical components.

structure used for?	
2. What are the maximum number of days it would be within the boundaries of the site each year? If year-round specify accordingly.	Same as work float, on which it sits; yearround, except for storms.
3. Provide the length and width in feet.	4x6
4. What is the height (in feet) as measured from the waterline?	approx. 9
5. Describe the roofing materials. They cannot be reflective or glossy.	cedar shingle
6. Describe the siding materials. They cannot be reflective or glossy.	wood: rough-cut board and batten
7. Select the color of the building.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grays <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blacks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Browns <input type="checkbox"/> Blues <input type="checkbox"/> Greens <input type="checkbox"/> Other Please specify:
8. What measures would you take to minimize visual impacts as viewed from the water?	Proper cleaning and maintenance; all gear properly stowed or lashed

E. VESSELS

1. Vessels Table

Use the table below to provide required information about the vessel(s) that may service the proposed site.

Type of Vessel	Engine type and HP:	Vessel Length in feet:	Height in feet as measured from the waterline:	How many days of the year would the vessel service the site?	How many hours each day would the vessel be on the site?
1. Fiberglass skiff	Outboard, 60 hp or less	20 ft. or less	20 inches	Up to 300	0 to 10
2. Aluminum skiff	Outboard, 25 hp or less	16 feet	22 inches	Up to 300	0 to 10
3.					
4.					

2. From where will the service vessels be launched? Check all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public boat launch <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private property owned by the applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:

3. Are you storing petroleum products on the proposed site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, you need to attach a spill prevention and control plan to this application.	

7. EXISTING USES

This section asks questions about the activities you have personally observed in the area.

A. COMMERCIAL NAVIGATION

1. When did you complete your observations of commercial vessel navigation in the area? Include the month(s) and year(s).	
Month(s): March-December	Year(s): 1990 to present
2. What types of commercial vessels did you observe navigating in the area? Lobster/pogie boats, frequent; barges, occasional.	
3. What was the approximate length of the commercial vessels you observed? Lobster boats 18-50 feet; barges vary, including floats pushed by skiffs (approx. 35-feet) ranging up to one large vessel with bow ramps and stern flying bridge superstructure.	
4. How many commercial vessels did you observe navigating in the area? Typically about 50 lobster boats, making multiple trips; 2-3 barges, infrequent.	
5. Did any commercial vessels transit through the boundaries of the proposed site?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, how many commercial vessels transited through the boundaries:	

6. What is the typical direction of commercial vessel traffic?

Navigation channel from Friendship Harbor to Lobster Gut or Morse Channel is roughly NW to SE.

B. RECREATIONAL NAVIGATION**1. When did you complete your observations of recreational vessel navigation in the area?**
Include the month(s) and year(s).**Month(s):** March-Dec.**Year(s):** 1990-present**2. What types of recreational vessels did you observe navigating in the area?**

Sail, power, kayaks frequent; canoes and rowskiffs occasional.

3. What were the approximate size of the recreational vessels you observed?

12-50 feet

4. How many recreational vessels did you observe navigating in the area?

Approx. 20-50 per day in high summer

5. Did any recreational vessels transit through the boundaries of the proposed site?

Yes No

If yes, how many recreational vessels transited through the boundaries:

6. What is the typical direction of recreational vessel traffic?

Mostly NW-SE in the main navigational channel; striper fishers sometimes work the drop-off just north of the proposed site.

C. MOORINGS**1. When did you complete your observations of moorings in the area?**

Include the month(s) and year(s).

Month(s): March-Dec.**Year(s):** 1990-present**2. Are there any moorings within the vicinity of the proposed lease site?**

Yes No

3. How many moorings are within 1,000 feet of the proposed site?

3

4. What type of vessels utilize the moorings? Check all that apply.

Commercial

Recreational

5. What is the distance (in feet) from the

proposed lease site to the closest observed mooring?	approx. 100 feet
6. What is the length (in feet) of the vessel that utilizes this mooring?	No vessels; two lobster work floats and one seasonal swim float

D. COMMERCIAL FISHING

1. When did you complete your observations of commercial fishing in the area? Include the month(s) and year(s).	
Month(s): March-Nov.	Year(s): 1990-present
The following questions are specific to commercial fishing that may occur within the boundaries of the proposed site.	
2. Does any commercial fishing occur within the boundaries of the proposed site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
3. List the type of commercial fishing that occurs within the boundaries of the proposed site.	
4. What months does commercial fishing activity occur within the boundaries of the proposed site?	
5. How many people commercially fish within the boundaries of the proposed lease area?	
The following questions are specific to commercial fishing that may occur within the vicinity of the proposed site.	
6. Does any commercial fishing occur within the vicinity of the proposed site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. List the type of commercial fishing that occurs within the vicinity of the proposed site.	Lobster, pogie
8. What months does commercial fishing activity occur within the vicinity of the proposed site?	Summer, fall
9. How many people commercially fish in the vicinity of the proposed site?	approx. 5-10 lobster boats have summer traps in the vicinity, mostly kids; approx. 5-10 pogie boats in season

E. RECREATIONAL FISHING

1. When did you complete your observations of recreational fishing in the area? Include the month(s) and year(s).	
Month(s): March-Nov.	Year(s): 1990-present
The following questions are specific to recreational fishing that may occur within the boundaries of the proposed site.	
2. Does any recreational fishing occur within	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

the boundaries of the proposed site?	
3. List the type of recreational fishing that occurs within the boundaries of the proposed site.	
4. What months does recreational fishing activity occur within the boundaries of the proposed site?	
5. How many people recreationally fish within the boundaries of the proposed lease area?	
The following questions are specific to recreational fishing that may occur within the vicinity of the proposed site.	
6. Does any recreational fishing occur within the vicinity of the proposed site?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. List the type of recreational fishing that occurs within the vicinity of the proposed site.	Mackerel, striper
8. What months does recreational fishing activity occur within the vicinity of the proposed site?	June-September
9. How many people recreationally fish in the vicinity of the proposed site?	Fewer than 5/day

F. RIPARIAN INGRESS AND EGRESS

1. When did you complete your observations of riparian ingress and egress in the area? Include the month(s) and year(s).	
Month(s): March-Nov.	Year(s): 1990-present
2. Describe the shoreline in the vicinity of the lease proposal.	
The shoreline of Friendship Long island is due west of the proposal. Other than two seasonal cabins owned by the applicant there is no development. There is a dilapidated and unused wharf about 500 feet north of the proposal. The applicant's own wharf lies about the same distance south. From north to south, the shoreline is a mix of field and forest: field to the south, forest directly opposite the proposed lease, then more field to the north.	
3. Have you observed any riparian owned vessel(s) accessing the shoreline?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
4. What type of vessel(s) did you observe?	
5. Describe the length (in feet) of the vessel(s).	
6. Describe the surrounding uplands in the vicinity of the lease proposal.	
A mix of forest and field, with two houses: my own and my neighbor's.	

G. DOCKS

1. Are there any docks in the area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. If yes, how many are within 1,000 feet of the proposed site?	2
3. Have you observed any vessels accessing or secured to the docks?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. If yes, what is the length (in feet) of the vessels observed?	16
5. What is the distance (in feet) from the proposed lease site to the closest observed dock?	500

H. OTHER WATER RELATED USES

Do any of the following activities occur within the vicinity of the proposed site? Check all that apply and answer the associated questions.			
Activity	Month(s) of Observation	How many persons or vessels were engaged in the activity?	Location
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kayaking	March-Nov.	Only occasional within proposed site, typically lured by my LPA; very common in the vicinity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Within the proposal boundaries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Within the vicinity of the proposed site.
<input type="checkbox"/> Swimming			<input type="checkbox"/> Within the proposal boundaries <input type="checkbox"/> Within the vicinity of the proposed site
<input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please specify:			<input type="checkbox"/> Within the proposal boundaries <input type="checkbox"/> Within the vicinity of the proposed site.

I. OTHER AQUACULTURE SITES

1. Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) License(s)

Are there any LPA licenses within the boundaries of the proposed site?	No
If yes, provide the LPA site ID(s)	
Are there any LPA sites within 1,000 feet of the boundaries of the proposed site?	No
If yes, provide the LPA site ID(s)	

2. Experimental Aquaculture Lease(s)

Is any portion of an experimental lease within the boundaries of the proposed site?	No
If yes, provide the experimental lease site ID	
Is there an experimental lease within 1,000 feet of the boundaries of the proposed site?	Yes
If yes, provide the experimental lease site ID	MEDLIX

3. Standard Aquaculture Lease(s)

Is any portion of a standard lease within the boundaries of the proposed site?	No
If yes, provide the standard lease site ID	
Is there a standard lease within 1,000 feet of the boundaries of the proposed site?	No
If yes, provide the standard lease site ID	

8. OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY

This section asks questions about technical capability, compliance history, and estimated costs.

A. TECHNICAL CAPABILITY

Do you or any other applicant hold existing aquaculture sites?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
If yes, please complete the table below for each aquaculture site held. Please attach additional entries as necessary.			
Name of Holder	Type of Site	Site ID	Acreage (if a lease). Do not provide a size for LPA sites.
Joe Cutts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA	MEDLIX	1.15 acres
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Experimental <input type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> LPA		

List your skills and experiences working on the water:

Owner operator of existing farm, Morse Cove Oysters, for 8 years. Lifetime on and around the water, salt and fresh, with plenty of mistakes to learn from. Alumni of excellent Aquaculture in Shared Waters Aquaculture Boot Camp at Darling Marine Center.

B. COMPLIANCE HISTORY

Have you been convicted of violating any state or federal marine resource laws?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Have you been adjudicated to be responsible for violating any state or federal marine resource laws?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

C. FINANCIAL ESTIMATES

Use the space below to provide requested cost estimates of the planned aquaculture activities, if approved, as they relate to this proposal.	
Annual Lease Rent	\$66
Annual DMR Licensing Fees	\$133
Annual cost to maintain the bond or commitment amount for the escrow account	\$5,000
Annual Equipment Costs	\$10,000-\$20,000
Annual Maintenance Costs	\$5,000-\$10,000

9. RIPARIAN LANDOWNER NOTIFICATION

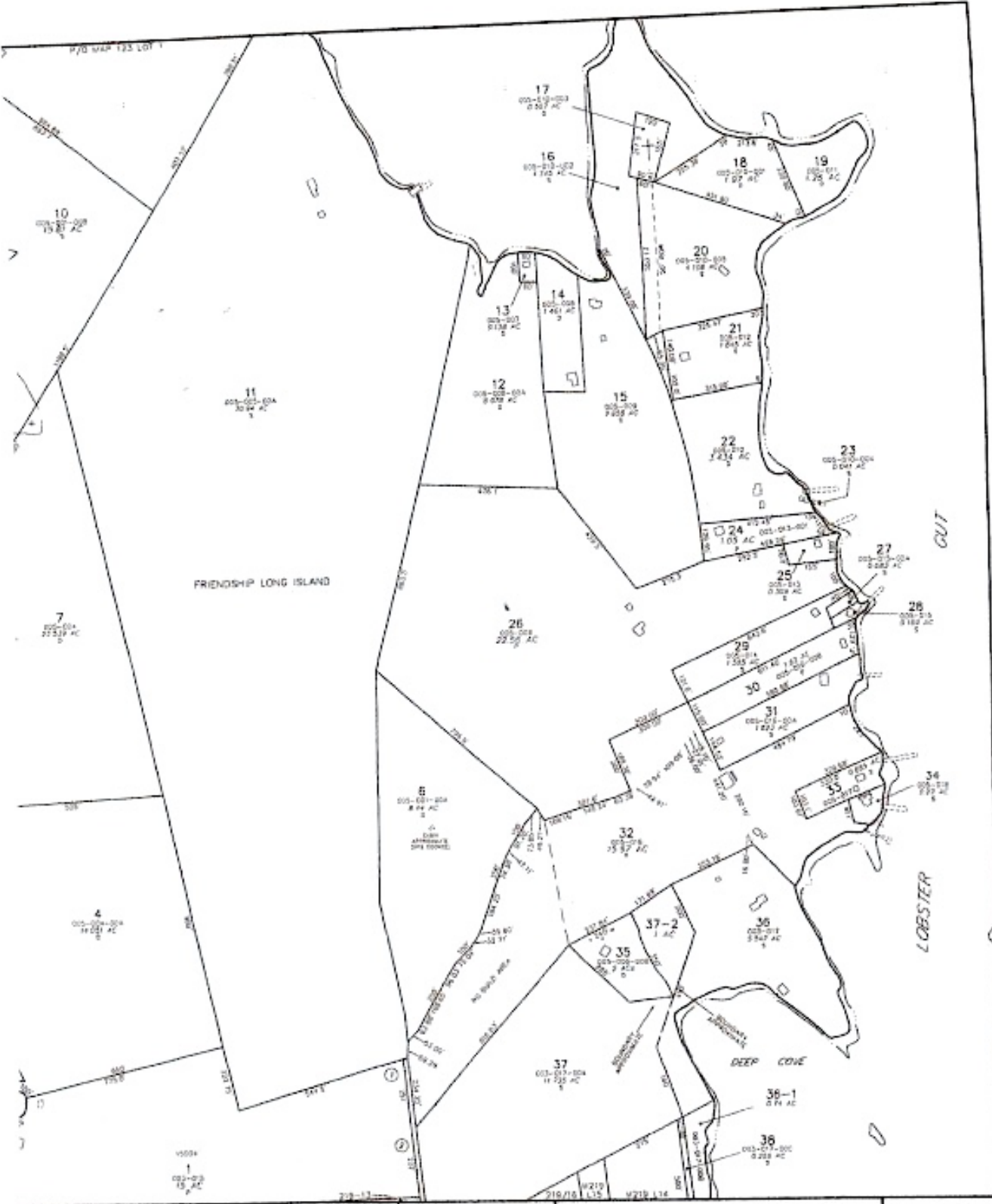
Is the proposal within 1,000 feet of shorefront land (which extends to mean low water or 1,650 feet from shore, whichever is less, according to NOAA charts).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
--	---

If yes, please submit the following:

- Include a completed riparian landowner list. If the site is in more than one municipality, you need to submit separate lists for each town/city.

- Make sure the list is certified by the municipality. The person certifying the list on behalf of the municipality should review the tax records and is typically the town clerk, tax assessor, or other individual familiar with these records.

- Include a tax map that displays the: town name, parcels numbered clearly, legible scale, and boundaries of the proposed lease site.



APRIL 1, 2021



MAINE STATE PLANE COORDINATE ONE EAST ZONE, YEAR 1983 US 1611
 PHOTOGRAPHIC DATE: APRIL 30, 2013
 PHOTOGRAMMETRIC COMPILATION BY AERIAL SURVEY AND PHOTO, INC.
 PARCEL SHAP COMPILATION BY GERRIT SURVEY AND PHOTO, INC.

INDEX DIAGRAM

176	177	178	179	180
180	181	182	183	184
184	185	216	217	
218	219			

PROPERTY MAP
 TOWN OF FRIENDSHIP
 KNOX COUNTY, MAINE

216

FRIENDSHIP HARBOR

FRIENDSHIP LONG ISLAND

208-00
38 1/2 AC

Proposed lease



NOTES:

- 1) THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR PROPERTY CONVEYANCE OR LEGAL DESCRIPTION
- 2) P = PARCEL INFORMATION FROM RECORDED PLANS
- 3) S = PARCEL INFORMATION FROM RECORDED SETS
- 4) B = PARCEL INFORMATION FROM MAP SCALE ONLY



PARCEL NUMBER
 PARCEL AREA
 WATCH LABEL
 BUILDING FOOTPRINT
 SUBDIVISION LOT NUMBER
 OLD MAP-LOT NUMBER

23
 7455 AC
 P/O MAP 128 LOT 22
 210-007-002
 APPROXIMATE MEAN HIGH WATER LINE

MAP LEGEND

- PARCEL BOUNDARY
- WATER LINE
- ROAD RIGHT OF WAY
- PAPER STREET
- EASEMENT LINE
- PRIVATE RIGHT OF WAY
- ISLAND EDGE

RIPARIAN LANDOWNER LIST

Using municipal tax records, complete the table below for all riparian shorefront parcels within 1,000 feet of the proposed lease site. **It is the applicant's responsibility to assemble the information for the municipality to certify.** The municipality *only* certifies that the information is correct according to the town's tax records. Once you have completed the form, ask the municipality to complete the certification section below. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Name of Municipality:	Friendship
------------------------------	------------

Tax Map Number	Lot Number	Name of Landowner(s)	Mailing Address (Based on municipal tax records)
123	1	Christopher Cleary	209 Windmere Ave., Interlaken NJ 07712
216	11	Joe Cutts	PO Box 190, Friendship, ME 04547
216	12*		* no longer exists
216	13	Nicholas Bower	PO Box 23, West York IL 62478
216	14	Brian and Nancy Woods	18 Martin Point Rd., Friendship ME 04547
216	15	Edward and Anita McLellan	17 Washington Way, Kingston, NH 03848

Town Certification

By signing below, I am certifying on behalf of the municipality listed above that the names and addresses of the property owners, including the map and lot numbers, are those listed in the records of this municipality and are current as of this date.

Printed Name:	PAMELA CABANAS
Signature:	<i>Pamela Cabanas</i>
Position:	<input type="checkbox"/> Town Clcr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Town Assessor <input type="checkbox"/> Other town official. Please specify:
Date:	5/28/2026

RIPARIAN LANDOWNER LIST

Using municipal tax records, complete the table below for all riparian shorefront parcels within 1,000 feet of the proposed lease site. **It is the applicant's responsibility to assemble the information for the municipality to certify.** The municipality only certifies that the information is correct according to the town's tax records. Once you have completed the form, ask the municipality to complete the certification section below. Attach additional pages as necessary.

Name of Municipality:	Friendship
------------------------------	------------

Tax Map Number	Lot Number	Name of Landowner(s)	Mailing Address (Based on municipal tax records)
216	16	Edward and Anita McLellan	17 Washington Way, Kingston, NH 03848

Town Certification

By signing below, I am certifying on behalf of the municipality listed above that the names and addresses of the property owners, including the map and lot numbers, are those listed in the records of this municipality and are current as of this date.

Printed Name:	
Signature:	
Position:	<input type="checkbox"/> Town Clerk <input type="checkbox"/> Town Assessor <input type="checkbox"/> Other town official. Please specify:
Date:	

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Town of Friendship
PO Box 207
Friendship, ME 04547-0212
(207) 832-5709

5/28/2026

Lots 216 /13 includes the acreage from deleted account 216/12

The Board of Assessors , Friendship, Maine

TOWN CLERK



5/28/2026

10. SITE COORDINATES

This section will ask you to provide your coordinates in decimal degrees, starting with the NW corner and proceeding clockwise. WGS-84 is the required datum.

Corner Label	Latitude (N)	Longitude (W)
1 (NW corner)	43.962469°	-69.335180°
2	43.962516°	-69.334623°
3	43.961960°	-69.334530°
4	43.961924°	-69.335080°
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

11. RENDERINGS & ATTACHMENTS

SITE LOCATION

A. BOUNDARY DRAWING

Depict the boundaries of the proposed site with corners labeled as referenced in the site coordinate table. Start with corner 1 (NW corner) and proceed clockwise with the labeling.

- Label the rendering 'Boundary Drawing'
- All corners are labeled in accordance with the instructions and match the coordinate table.

B. VICINITY MAP

Using a NOAA Chart, show the area within a minimum of 3,000 feet of the proposed lease site.

The vicinity map needs to include the following:

- Label the rendering 'Vicinity Map'
- Lease boundaries
- 1,000-foot radius buffer around each corner
- Arrow indicating true north
- Scale bar

GEAR SCHEMATICS

If you are proposing any gear or structure, you must provide the following renderings.

C. OVERHEAD VIEW

- Label the rendering 'Overhead View'
- Include the maximum layout of all gear, including moorings
- Label each gear type
- Depict the location of floats or other associated structure
- Approximate spacing between gear in feet
- Length and width of the proposed site
- Lease boundaries and the location of proposed corner markers and any additional gear markers that would be present.
- Gear orientation

D. SEASONAL OVERHEAD VIEW

If there are seasonal changes to the gear layout (i.e. overwintering), submit an overhead view depicting the following:

- Label the rendering 'Seasonal Overhead View'
- Include the maximum layout of all gear, including moorings

- Label each gear type
- Depict the location of floats or other associated structure
- Approximate spacing between gear in feet
- Length and width of the proposed site
- Lease boundaries and the location of proposed corner markers and any additional gear markers that would be present
- Gear orientation

E. CROSS SECTION VIEW

- Label the rendering ‘Cross Section View’
- Profile of gear in cross-section as it will be deployed
- Label each gear type
- Depict mooring type
- Depict mooring scope
- Depict mooring hardware
- Depict mooring line type and size
- Depict the depth of the gear in relationship to the water’s surface at both mean low water and mean high water

F. SEASONAL CROSS SECTION VIEW

If there are seasonal changes to the gear layout (i.e. overwintering), submit a cross section view depicting the following:

- Label the rendering ‘Seasonal Cross Section View’
- Profile of gear in cross-section as it will be deployed
- Label each gear type
- Depict mooring type
- Depict mooring scope
- Depict mooring hardware
- Depict mooring line type and size
- Depict the depth of the gear in relationship to the water’s surface at both mean low water and mean high water

G. STRUCTURE/FLOAT SCHEMATICS

Provide a schematic or photos of any structures or floats that are proposed. The schematic(s) need to include the following:

- The location of any lights (if applicable)
- Approximate location of any mechanized equipment that may be used or stored on the structure. The equipment must be labeled.

H. EQUIPMENT LAYOUT

- Provide schematic or photographic renderings of the generalized layout of the equipment as depicted from **two** vantage points on the water (i.e. what will your site look like on the water from different points)
- Provide the locations of the two vantage points.

OTHER ATTACHMENTS

I. OIL SPILL PREVENTION AND CONTROL PLAN

If petroleum products are stored on the proposed site, you need to attach a spill prevention and control plan. It must include the following:

- Procedures and control measures to prevent spills.
- Measures to contain, cleanup, and mitigate the effects of an oil spill that has impacted navigable waters or adjoining shorelines.

J. FINANCIAL INSTITUTION LETTERS

In accordance with regulation, you must include a letter from a financial institution indicating you have an account in good standing. If there are multiple applicants, they each submit letters.

K. INTERTIDAL SITES

If any portion of the proposed site is above mean low water, you need to provide the following under 1) and 2):

1. Landowner Written Permission

All riparian owners whose intertidal lands will be used for aquaculture need to give the applicant written permission to use intertidal lands. You need to submit this written permission with your application. DMR will not accept the application without the required permission.

The written permission must include the following:

- The map and lot number of the parcel to which the permission applies, which needs to match what is listed on the riparian landowner list.

The letter must include the names(s) of the landowner(s). If the parcel is held by multiple people, each individual needs to provide permission. It can be included in the same letter, but it needs to be clear that all owners of the parcel consent.

The letter must clearly state that the parcel owner is giving the applicant(s) **permission to use their intertidal lands** for the proposed aquaculture activities. General letters of support from the parcel owner do not satisfy this requirement.

If the intertidal land is owned by the applicant(s) then an ‘Applicant Statement’ must be included with the submission. The submission needs to include the map and lot number of the parcel owned.

2. Municipal Permission

Does the municipality have a shellfish conservation program in accordance with 12 M.R.S.A. section 6671?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
--	--

If you selected “no” then part 2) is not required.

If you selected “yes” then you also need to submit the following with your application:

The **municipal officials** need to consent to using the intertidal area. Consent means that a majority of the municipal officials voted to grant permission to use the intertidal area. The vote needs to occur during a public meeting.

After the meeting, you will need to submit one of the following:

A copy of the final meeting minutes that includes the text of the motion and the results of the vote, which demonstrates that a majority of municipal officials gave consent to the applicant(s) to use the intertidal area. Draft copies of meeting minutes will not be accepted.

OR

A letter from the municipality that summarizes the meeting when the vote was taken. The letter needs to include:


- The date of the meeting.
- Text of the motion.
- The vote of each municipal official (they need to be individually named).
- Name and signature of the individual submitting the letter on behalf of the town.

12. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND SIGNATURE PAGE

Every listed applicant needs to complete and include a copy of this form with the submission. If the applicant is a company, this needs to be completed and signed by a person authorized to make such certifications and submissions on behalf of the company.

Please read and check box confirming understanding

- I have read DMR's aquaculture laws and regulations and will comply with those provisions.
- I understand that lease proposals are evaluated in consideration of applicable decision criteria and processed in accordance with relevant law and rules. Applying for a lease is not a guarantee that this site will be granted or otherwise granted as originally applied for.
- I understand that lease application fees are non-refundable.
- I understand that falsifying any information in this application will result in termination of the application or other enforcement action.
- I understand that it is my responsibility to submit a copy of this application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and that their review process is separate from DMR's. If I have questions about the USACE process or review, I will contact that agency.
- I read the lease application instructions. I will follow the instructions and provide any requested information in a timely manner.
- If the lease is granted, I understand that all gear, including moorings, are required to remain within the boundaries of the proposed lease site at all tidal stages. I understand that if the lease is granted, failure to keep gear, including moorings, within the boundaries of the site will result in compliance action including possible revocation of the site.
- I will mark the site in accordance with Chapter 2.80 of DMR's regulations.

Printed Name	Joe Curtis
Signature	
Date	6/2/26

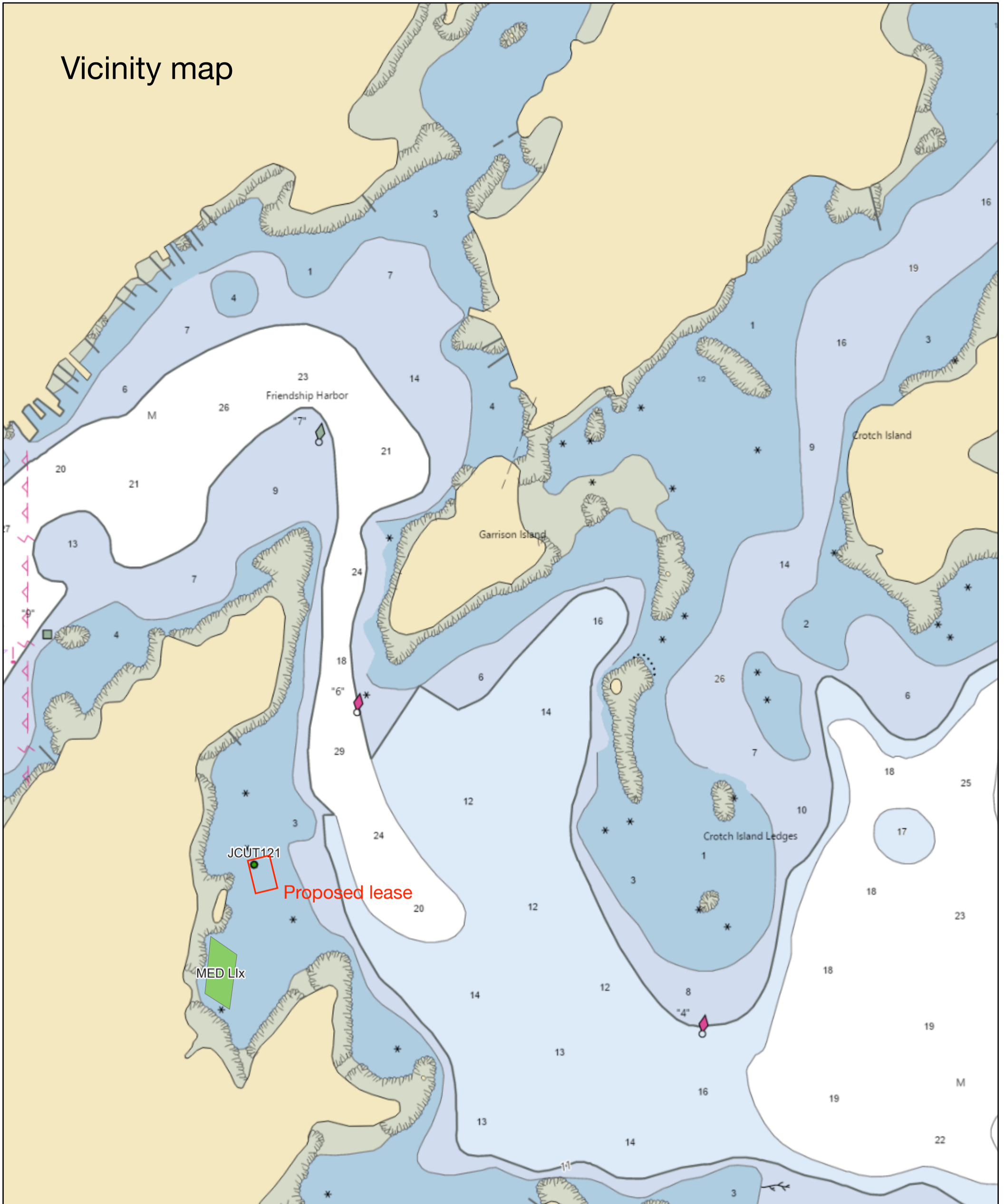
Boundary drawing

with 1000 foot radius from all corners



Boundary drawing
145 x 200 feet, .67 acres

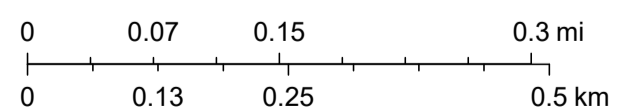
Vicinity map



2/19/2026, 3:15:26 PM

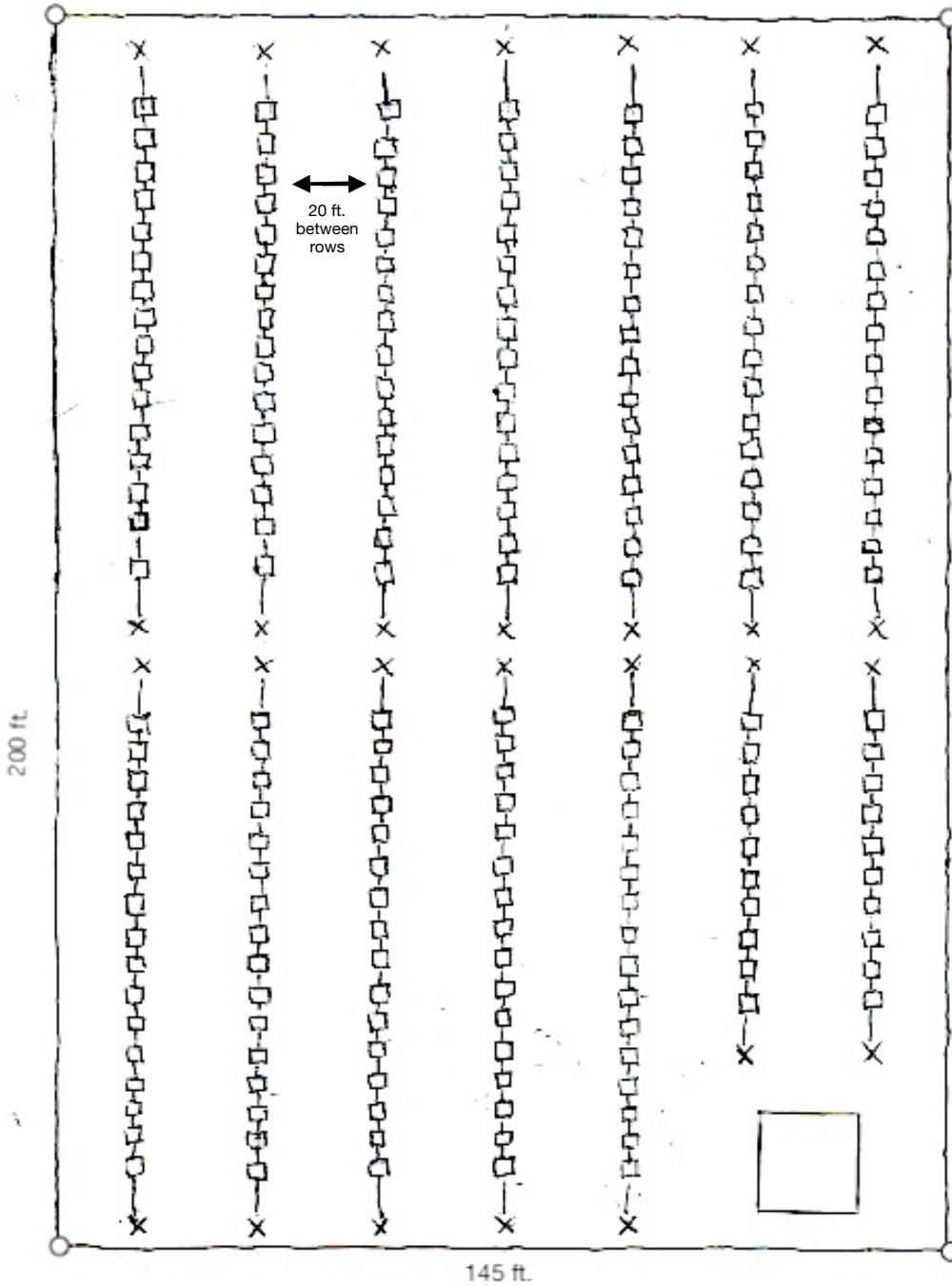
● Active
Active and Pending Aquaculture Leases
■ Active

1:9,967



Gear layout, overhead

Maximum 14 rows (12 rows of 15 racks, 2 rows of 10 racks); 20 feet between rows



□ = 4-bag cages suspended from pontoons, occasionally flipped for drying; clipped to 3/8" line

○ = "Sea Farm" buoy, 16", yellow

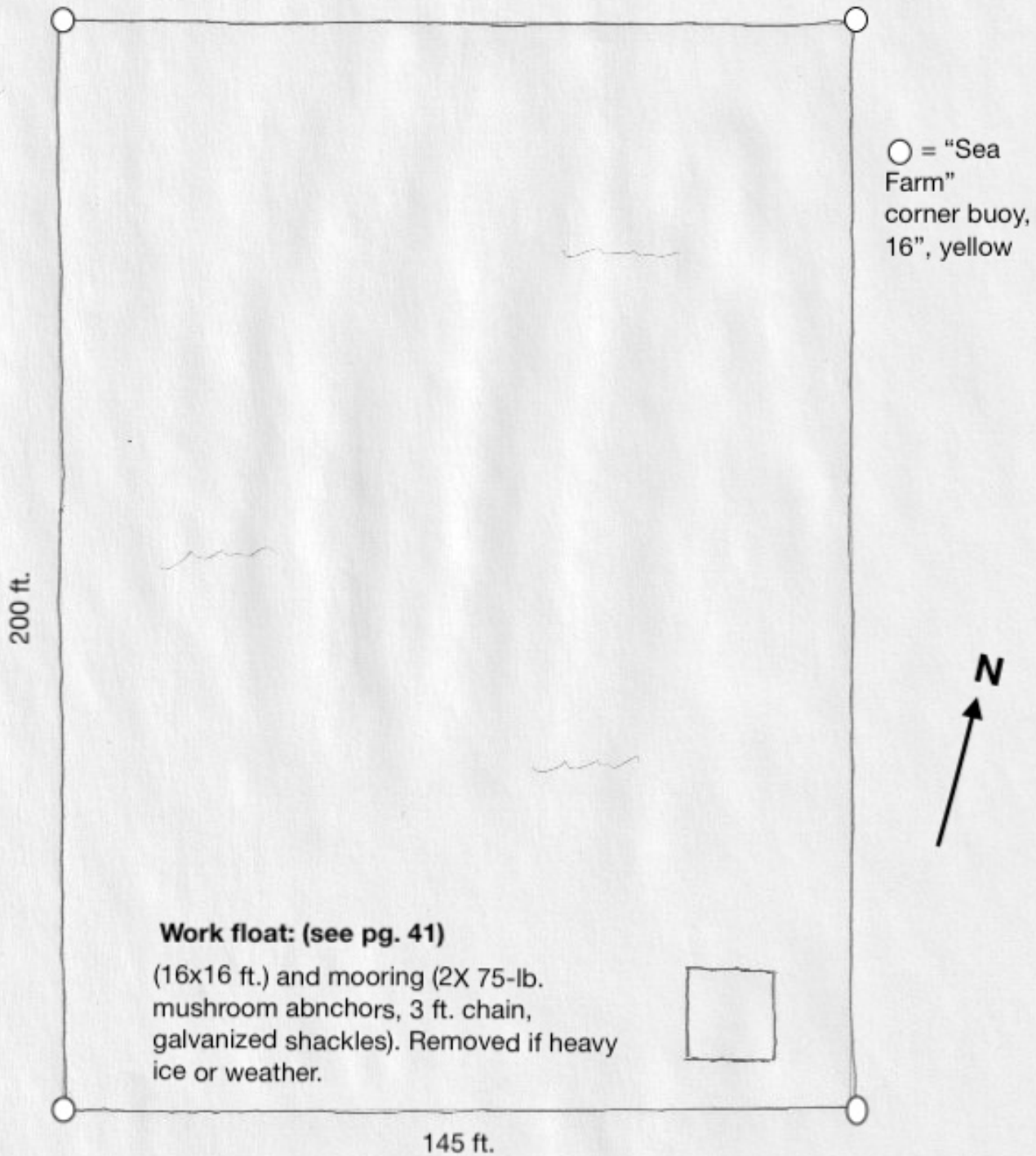
X = mooring: 75-pound mushroom, chain, shackle, 1/2-inch line.

Winter layout:
Dec.15-April 15: cages submerged, all surface gear removed.

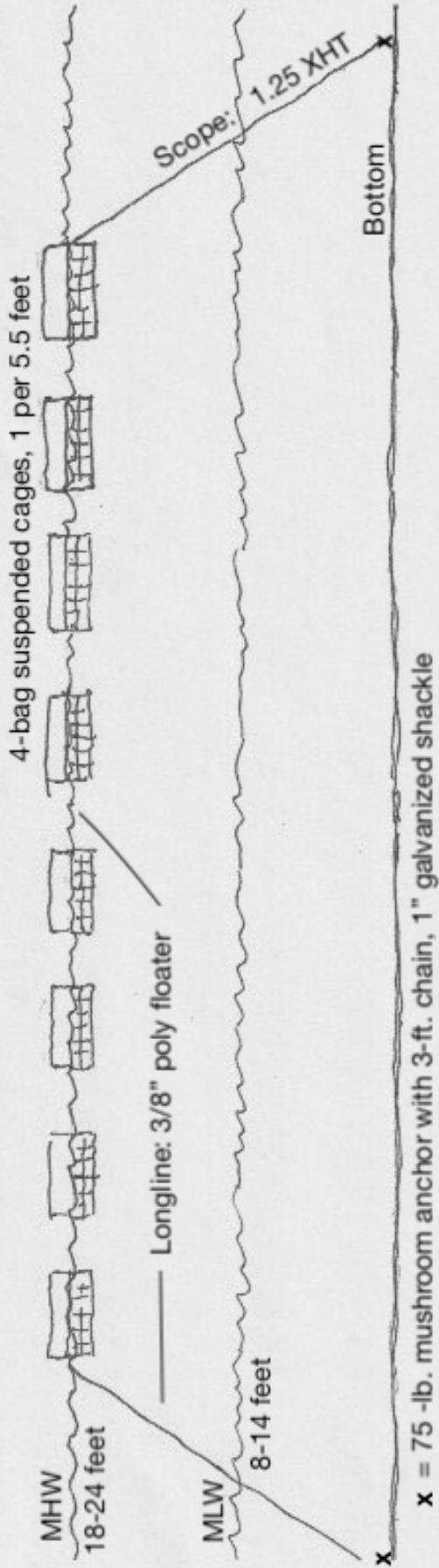
Work float
16x16 ft., 3 solar panels mounted on 4x6 shed, max. height 7 ft.

Gear layout, overhead, seasonal

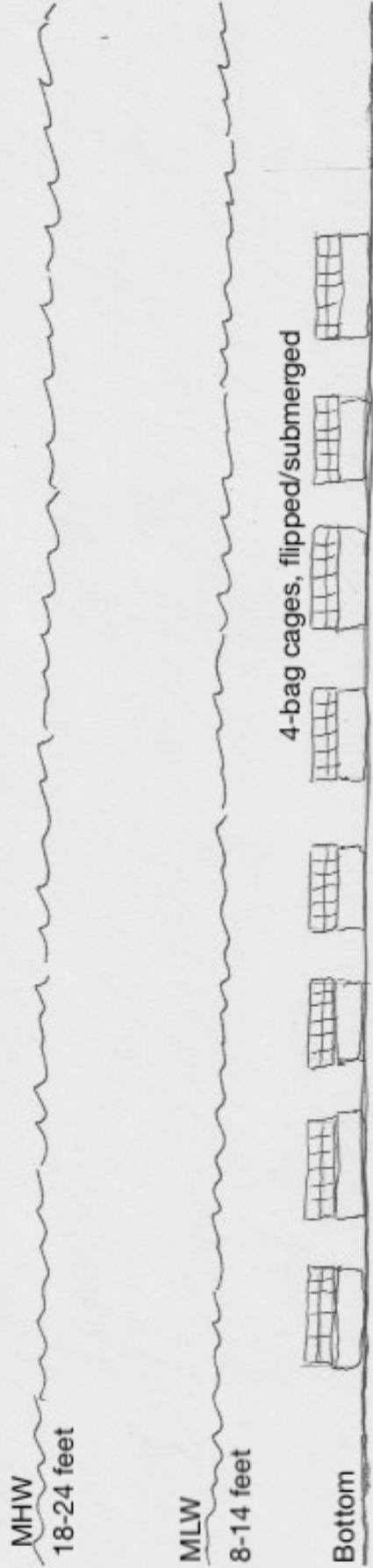
All surface gear submerged or removed except corner buoys and work float (also ice permitting).



Gear Layout, Cross Section

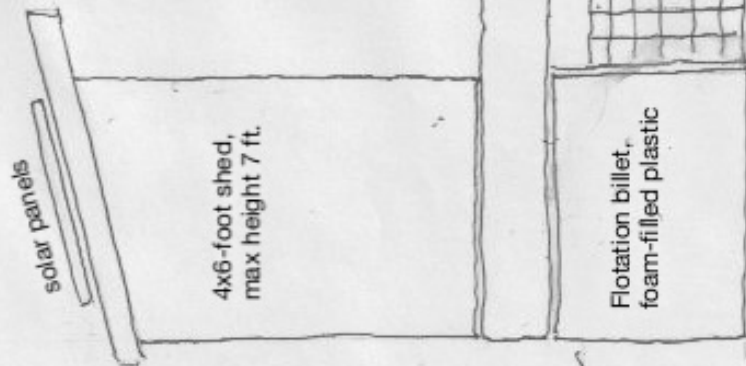
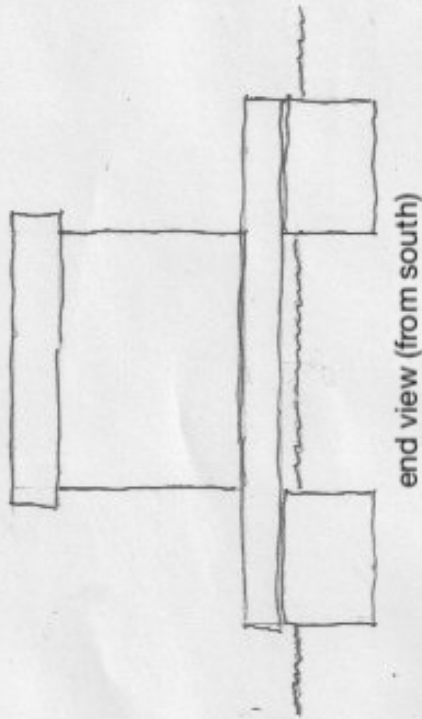
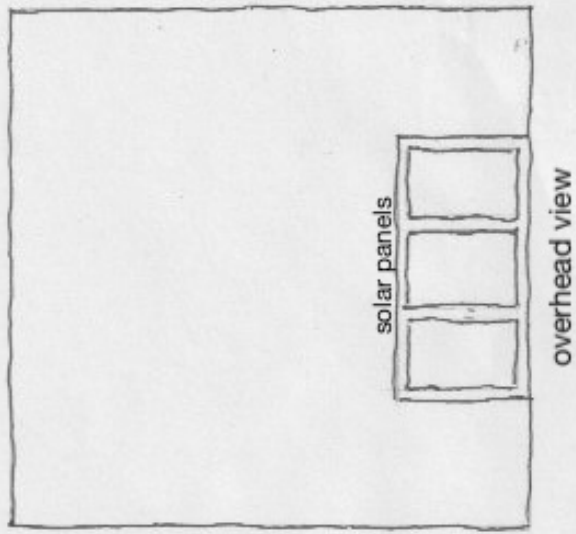


Gear Layout, Cross Section, Winter

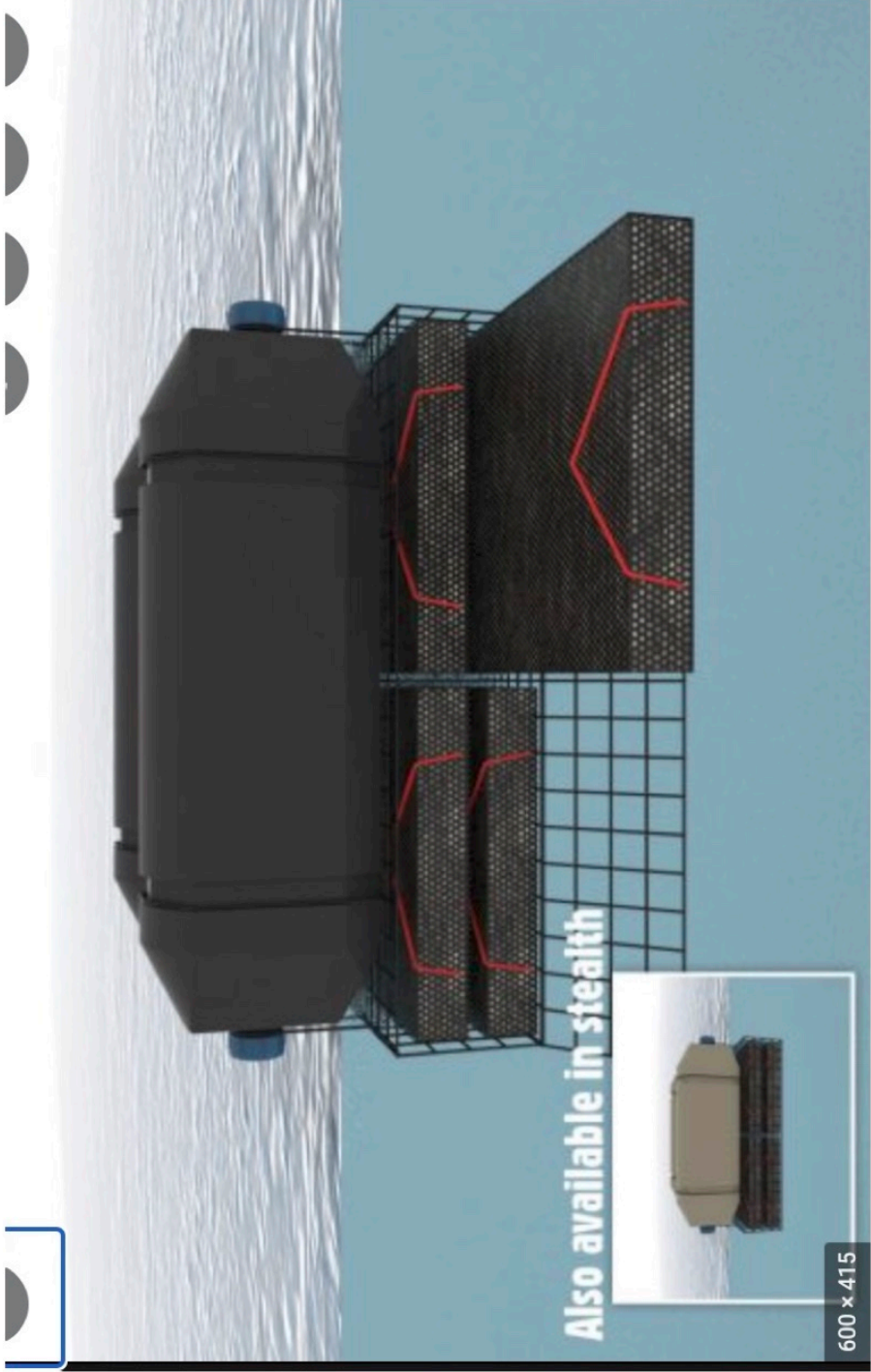


Work float diagram

16x16 feet, with 4x6 foot shed, up to 3 solar panels mounted on top of shed, submerged trap-wire bays for wet storage



4-bag cage suspended by pontoons, such as OysterGro or Go Deep.



Also available in stealth

600 x 415

Bangor Savings Bank

You matter more.®

February 18, 2026

RE: Joseph W Cutts

PO BOX 190

Friendship ME 04547

To whom it may concern,

Please be advised that Joseph W Cutts account ending in 1179 is in good standing. Please let me know if you need any further information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Brynne A.H. Whitney
Vice President, Branch Manager II
NMSL#1468690

Bangor Savings Bank
PO Box 999 | 619 Main St
Damariscotta ME 04543
(p) 207-248-4226
Bangor Savings Bank NMLS #449200
Brynne.Whitney@Bangor.com