

Deemed Complete - 07.16.2026



## APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN AUTHORIZATION FOR SPECIES and/or GEAR



|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lease Acronym                     | DAM LW2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Leaseholder                       | University of Maine System                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Contact Person                    | Adam St. Gelais                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Address                           | Darling Marine Center, 193 Clark's Cove Road                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| City                              | Walpole                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| State, Zip                        | Maine 04573                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Telephone                         | (207) 590-4489                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Email                             | adam.st@maine.edu                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Is this a multi-tract lease site? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>If "yes" please list which tract(s) you are proposing to amend:<br>Tract 1 _____<br><b>Note:</b> Please provide renderings for all tracts you are proposing to amend. |

What type of amendment are you requesting (check one)?

☐ Gear amendment only

**Instructions:** Review and complete sections 1, 3, 4, and 5 of this application

☐ Species amendment only

**Instructions:** Review and complete sections 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the application

☒ Gear and species amendment

**Instructions:** Review and complete each section of the application

## 1. Bird Deterrents

**BIRD DETERRENTS:** Suspended culture gear can attract birds that roost on the gear and defecate, potentially creating a pollution source impacting shellfish held within the gear. If you are applying to add shellfish species and/or suspended gear to your site, please include a description of mitigation or deterrent measures to minimize the potential pollution impacts of birds. If appropriate, include sketches or photos that clearly depict those measures put into practice.

Examples may include:

- Suspended gear and associated product would be submerged at a depth sufficient to deter roosting for at least two weeks before harvest
- Attaching physical deterrents (i.e. zip ties) to gear
- Only shellfish seed would be cultured
- Only adductor-only scallops would be cultured

Pens: The proposed gear is for urchins; not filter feeders. Also, the urchins in the proposed system are not covered by mesh so there is no perching opportunity for birds directly over the structure.

Propellers: Lantern nets with propellers attached would be submerged ~3 ft. under the water surface for 4-6 weeks in the spring.

Species: For the species amendment, bay scallops are for experimental purposes only; they are not intended for the commercial market. For any additional experimental work we might conduct (such as smoking), bay scallops would be held in submerged gear for at least two weeks, per DMR recommendations.

## 2. SPECIES CHANGES

**SPECIES INFORMATION:** Indicate the species you wish to add or remove from your lease and list the source of stock for each species you wish to add.

| Indicate “Add” or “Remove” from Lease | Species (common and Latin name)            | Source of Stock (Name, address, & phone number)                            |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Add                                   | Bay scallops, <i>Aequipecten irradians</i> | Muscongus Bay Aquaculture, PO Box 204 Bremen, ME 04551<br>(207) 529 - 4100 |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |
|                                       |                                            |                                                                            |

**CULTURE PLAN:** Please describe how you intend to cultivate each of the species you proposed to add to the lease using the table below. Please attach a separate table for each species you propose.

| <b>Information Requested</b>                   | <b>Proposed Species:</b> Bay scallop, <i>Argopecten irradians</i>                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Seed Size                                      | 1-3 mm                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Number of Organisms to be Cultured             | 30,000                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Stocking Density                               | Initial seed will be stocked at ~1000-2000 per tier of a lantern net.<br>Scallops will be thinned as they grow to a final density of ~10-15 per tier as adults.                                 |
| Method of Culture and Dates<br>(ex: April-Dec) | January - December: Scallops will be cultured in pearl or lantern nets suspended from a longline a gear method already approved at the site                                                     |
| Method of Harvest and Timing (ex: Fall)        | These are experimental animals only and no commercial harvest will occur.<br>Subsamples (60-100) animals will be destructively sampled on monthly schedules while experiments are taking place. |
| Predator Control Methods                       | Scallops will be fully contained in nets.                                                                                                                                                       |
| Overwintering Plans/Dates<br>(ex. Nov – Mar)   | Scallops will remain in pearl or lantern nets over the entire culture period.                                                                                                                   |

### 3. GEAR CHANGES

**GEAR INFORMATION:** Describe each gear type you wish to add to or remove from your current gear plan.

| <b>Specific Gear Type</b> ( <i>e.g. soft mesh bag</i> ) | <b>Add or Remove</b> | <b>Dimensions of Gear Added or Removed</b> ( <i>e.g. 16"x20"x2"</i> ) | <b>Dates That Gear Will Be in The Water</b> ( <i>Added gear only</i> ) |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Urchin Pen<br>(maximum of 3)                            | Add                  | approx. 8' square by 6' depth                                         | Year-round                                                             |
| Lantern net with propeller<br>(maximum of 6)            | Add                  | 45" in diameter by 4" depth                                           | 4-6 weeks in spring / early summer                                     |
| Spat on shell lines                                     | Add                  | Up to 0.5" rope, up to 15' length                                     | Year-round                                                             |
|                                                         |                      |                                                                       |                                                                        |
|                                                         |                      |                                                                       |                                                                        |

\*\*\* Attach the following drawings showing the proposed new gear. Use the plans in your Army Corps permit and/or DMR lease application as a starting point. Be sure to include:

- **Layout plan** showing:
  - placement of existing and new gear on lease site
  - north arrow
  - lease corners labeled
- **Cross-section view** showing:
  - mooring gear and
  - other gear
  - depths at MLW and MHW
- **Drawing of an individual piece of each new gear**, including:
  - dimensions and
  - materials and
  - numbers of each type of gear to be added

**Complete responses to the following questions (attach a separate sheet if needed):****1. How does adding this gear change your existing operations?**

Both proposed gear types would be on the subtidal tract (Tract 1) of the DMC lease, DAM LW2. The pens would either be incorporated to fit inside the existing floats on the intertidal tract or they would be attached to the float, which is the more likely option. The propellers would be attached to lantern nets already in use at the farm.

There would not be much of a change to the existing operations: we don't expect much more in terms of frequency to the site, and the proposed gear would not greatly impact existing operations already allowed under our present lease agreement. Seaweed from the lease would be fed to the urchins in the enclosure. Oysters would be held in the lantern nets instead of scallops.

**2. Describe any changes in the number of trips to the lease site per day. If none, please write "none."**

On a day-to-day basis, not much for changes out to the lease site. The urchins will need feeding once per week or once per every other week, and pen maintenance is expected to be minimal, because the urchins will graze off biofouling. The lantern nets with propellers would need maintenance at the same schedule as the ones already holding scallops at the site but will only be deployed for roughly 1-2 months. In total, we expected that having the proposed gear would add two to three extra trips per week. The site is in very close proximity to the wharves used to service the site. The dropper lines for oysters will need only \*very\* occasional checking, so not much in terms of additional trips

**3. Describe any changes in noise and level of on-site activity. If there are no changes, please write "none."**

No real changes expected in noise level; and very slight increase in activity on the site.

4. Will gear remain on site during the winter? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If you selected “yes” use the space below to describe your overwintering plans. Please include the dates for overwintering.

We plan to keep the proposed gear (Pens) deployed year-round, so that we can evaluate the growth of urchins during all seasons.

Lantern nets with attached propellers would likely only be deployed for 4-6 weeks in the spring and early summer for nursery culture of oysters.

Oyser dropper lines will be out year-round

#### 4. Tax Maps and Riparian List

Is your existing lease within 1,000ft of shorefront land (which extends to mean low water or 1,650 ft. from shore, whichever is less)?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, the following supporting documents are required:

##### A. Tax Map

A labeled copy of the appropriate tax map(s) depicting the location of the lease site. If you are amending a multi-tract site, please include a tax map(s) for all tracts.

The map(s) needs to include the following elements:

- Label the map “Tax Map: Town of (name of town).”
- Legible scale
- Tax lot numbers clearly displayed
- The boundaries of the existing lease

##### B. Riparian List

Please use the Riparian Landowner List (included on the next page) to list the name and address of every shorefront landowner within 1,000 feet of your existing lease. Have the tax collector or clerk of the municipality certify the riparian list.

**RIPARIAN LANDOWNER LIST*****\*THIS LIST MUST BE CERTIFIED\****

On this list, please show the current landowners' names and mailing addresses as listed in the municipal tax records for all riparian shorefront parcels within 1,000 feet of the existing lease site along with the map and lot number for each parcel. **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 the parcels are within more than one municipality, provide a separate, certified riparian list for each municipality.

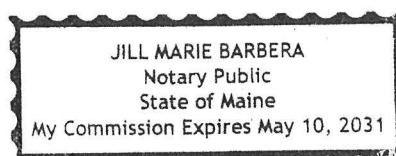
**TOWN OF:**

| MAP # | LOT # | Landowner name(s) and address(es)                                                      |
|-------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 28    | 07    | University of Maine, Darling Marine Center<br>193 Clarks Cove Rd. Walpole, ME 04573    |
| 28    | 08    | Rounds, John & Peter,<br>Rev Trust<br>McVickar, Joan<br>7 Orchard Rd. Walpole Me 04573 |
| 28    | 09    | University of Maine, Darling Marine Center<br>193 Clarks Cove Rd. Walpole, ME 04573    |
|       |       |                                                                                        |
|       |       |                                                                                        |
|       |       |                                                                                        |

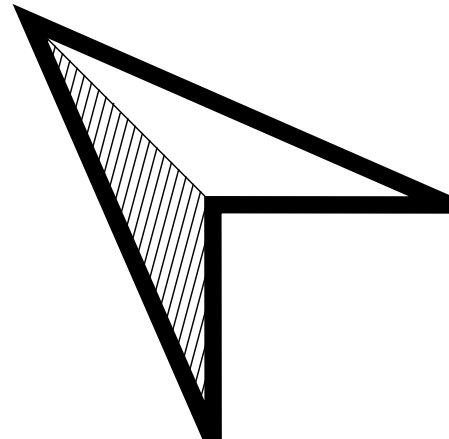
**Please use additional sheets if necessary and attach hereto.****CERTIFICATION**

I, Jill Barbera Town Clerk for the Town of South Bristol 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: Jill Barbera DATE: 2-24-2026



Property Map  
South Bristol  
Maine



0 500 1,000

Scale:  
1" = 400 ft.

Legend

- Parcels
- This Map
  - Adjacent Maps
  - Private Roads
  - Public Roads
  - easements
  - Subparcel lines
  - 911\_Roads
  - Secondary
  - Local
  - Private
  - Streams
  - NWI\_Wetlands
  - Fresh Water Bodies
  - Intertidal Flats and Ledges
  - Tidal Waters

Source Documents:

South Bristol Property Maps by James W. Sewall Co. and updated through 2014 by Maine Coast Surveying.

Digital Property Maps prepared by Maine Coast Surveying in 2014 and updated through 2016.

Digital Property Map updates by Maine Coast Surveying & Flood Consulting 2017 & 2018.

Digital Property Map updates by Roderick H. Craib, Jr. (PLS 1191) 2019 - 2024.

Maine Office of Geographic Information Systems digital data layers include:

High resolution digital orthophotographs produced from aerial photos collected in the Spring of 2013 and 2018.

Road Type contains Next Generation 9-1-1 road centerline and road name data last updated February 3, 2025.

Streams depicts single line streams of Maine from USGS 1:24,000 scale quadrangles.

Wetlands (NWI) contains USFW National Wetland Inventory polygon data for Maine at 1:24,000 scale.

The tidal shore was developed from two foot contours derived from 2010 - 2011 Lidar data courtesy of the USGS and the Maine Office of GIS.

This revision is based only on plans, deeds and other data supplied by the Town of South Bristol.

Owner's names may be abbreviated, simplified, or omitted to save space. See South Bristol Tax Records for complete names.

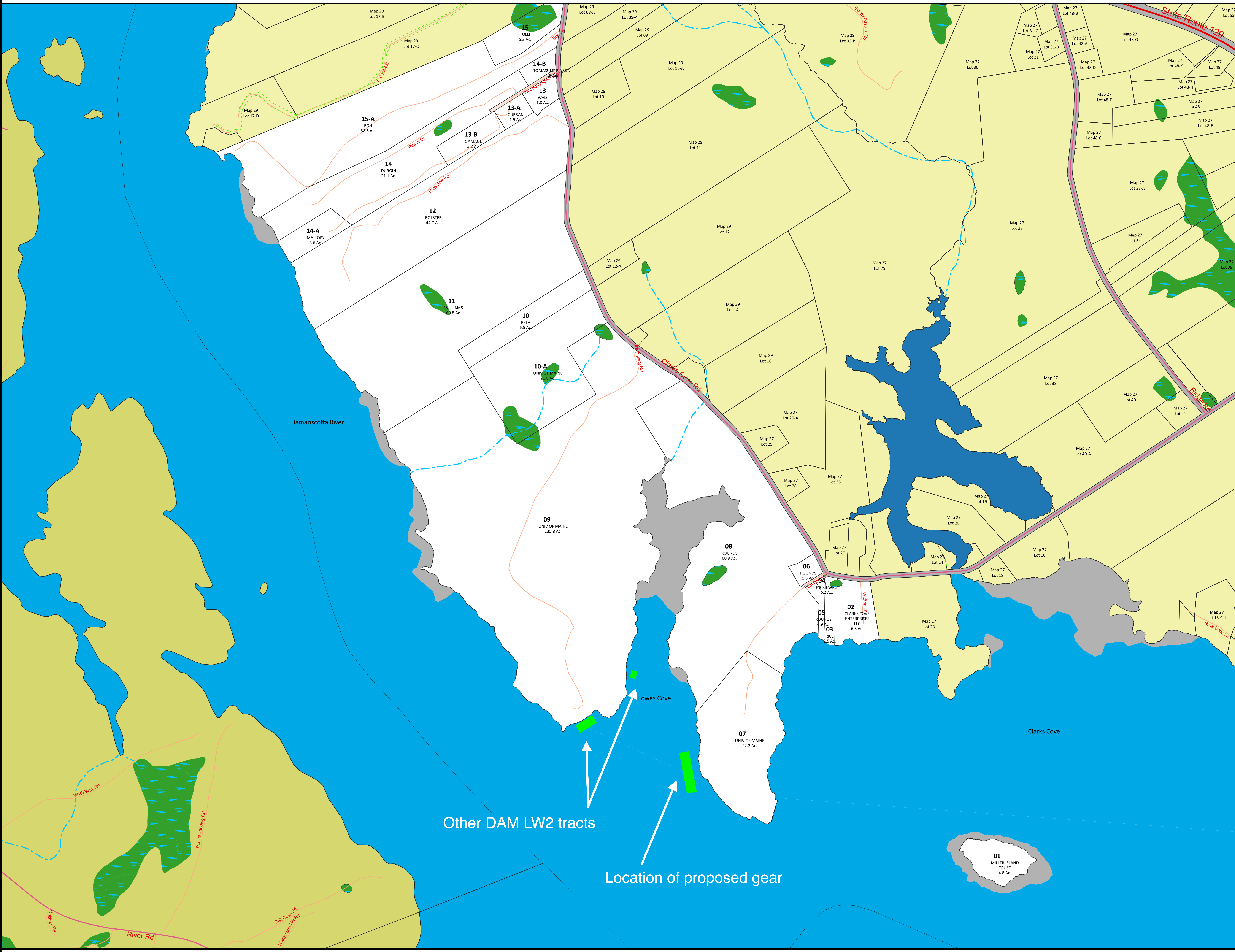
The dimensions and areas shown were derived from this map for assessment purposes only. They may be different from previous tax maps, deeds, or surveys.

For Assessment Purposes Only  
Not a Boundary Survey  
Not To Be Used For  
Conveyances

prepared by:  
Roderick H. Craib, Jr.  
Professional Land Surveyor # 1191  
P.O. Box 101  
167 Fox Hill Road  
Walpole, ME 04573

Revisions dated April 1, 2025  
Maps printed June 2, 2025

Map 28

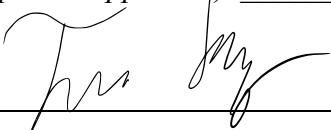


## 5. Applicant Signature

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 lease amendment process.

Printed name: Thomas Kiffney

Title (*if corporate applicant*): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature:  Date: 5/12/26

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(s) (i.e. President, Treasurer, etc.) of the individual(s) signing on the company's behalf.

**Additional Applicant:**

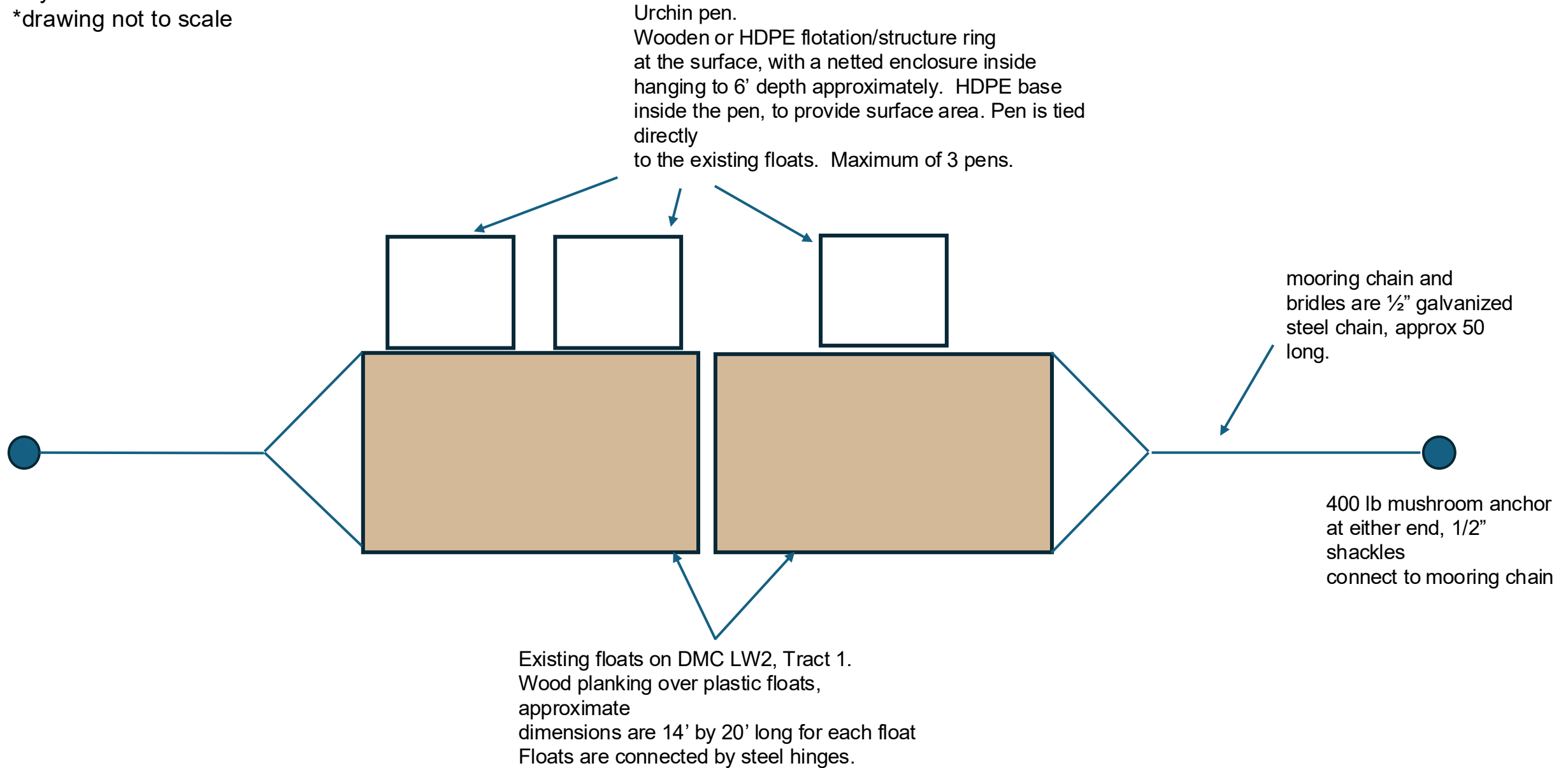
Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

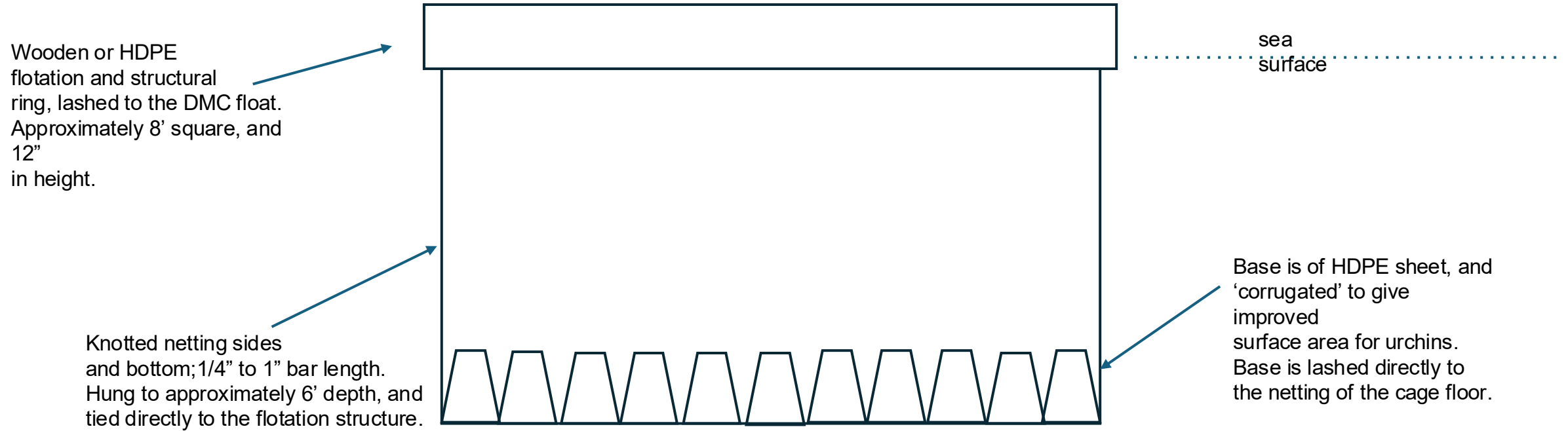
Title (*if corporate applicant*): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

2026 DAM LW2  
Gear Amendment Application  
Layout view  
\*drawing not to scale

## URCHIN PEN





Seabed. Water depth at MLW is 17', or 24' at MHW



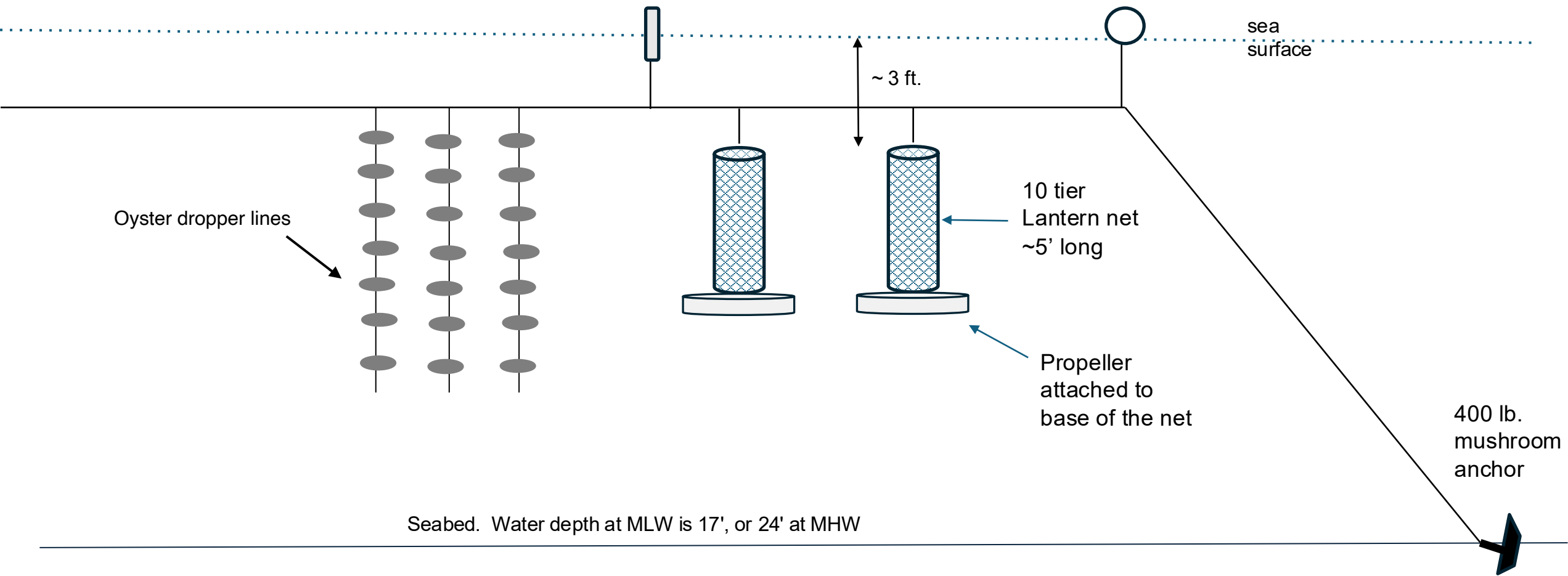
Here, you can see the HDPE base being washed: the side netting has been gathered up so the base is accessible. In abalone-producing countries, pens are lined up in strings, as shown in this photo. We propose three individual cages at the DMC to test the proof of concept.



Here another view of the HDPE corrugated base; it provides surface area for grazers such as abalone (pictured) or urchins. The side netting is also visible. When deployed, the base sits approximately 5 or 6 feet below the surface, surrounded and supported by the netting. Mesh also covers underneath the corrugated base.

2026 DAM LW2  
Gear Amendment Application  
Layout view  
\*drawing not to scale

Lantern Net Propeller



2026 DAM LW2  
Gear Amendment Application  
Layout view  
\*drawing not to scale



Both sides of the lantern net propeller from Grainocean. Propellers are 45" in diameter and 4" in depth.

For the best overview of this proposed gear, please see this video, from the 14:30 mark:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fj1R\\_pVGK9U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fj1R_pVGK9U)

The turbine is attached to the bottom level of a typical lantern net, and deployed for a short time, to provide gentle tumbling to seed oysters. This improves shape and durability of the shell.

## Lantern Net Propeller

Example lantern net



Propeller  
attached to  
bottom of  
net

Spat will be set on to shell either at a collaborating commercial hatchery, or at the DMC once the LBA is in place. Spat on shell will be set into the lay of a twisted rope, and the rope will be hung vertically, from either the DMC float (on our lease) or from our horizontal longlines, which also support kelp and scallops.



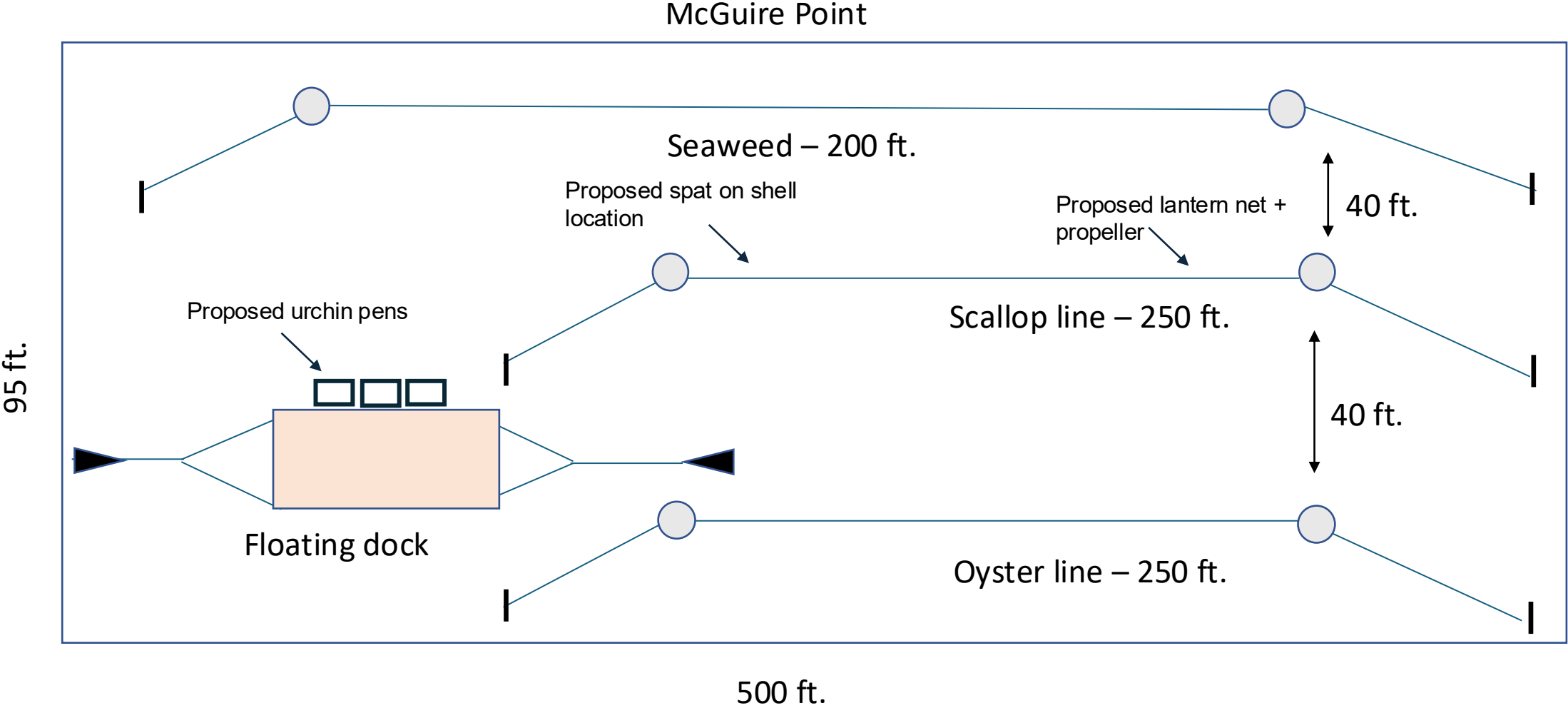
Shell will be cured  
at least 6 months  
prior to use.

An example of oyster spat attached  
to clean oyster shell



An example of a shell with spat on it, woven into the lay of a rope. In this method, the oysters grow right off the shell, and are left to grow for one to three seasons. The end result is a cluster of oysters (rather than individual, half-shell oysters) that is more suitable for the shucked-meats market.

2026 DAM LW2  
Gear Amendment Application  
Overhead view of existing equipment  
and proposed gear.



2026 DAM LW2 - TRACT1  
Gear Amendment Application  
Overhead view of existing  
layout.

- N Corner  
N43° 55' 57.8"  
W69° 34' 42.5"
- NE Corner  
N43° 55' 57.2" W  
69° 34' 41.5"
- SE Corner  
N43° 55' 53.4"  
W69° 34' 45.8"
- SW Corner  
N43° 55' 54.1"  
W69° 34' 46.8"



**Subject:** RE: sea urchin aquaculture  
**From:** "Wood, Gregg" <Gregg.Wood@maine.gov>  
**Date:** 12/31/25, 8:42 AM  
**To:** Dana Morse <dana.morse@maine.edu>

Good morning Dana:

Thanks for reminding me to get back to you. Based on your description of the proposal, the Department considers a discharge from such a small project as this to be de minimis, therefore, not requiring a Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit/ Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) from the DEP. As we discussed, collecting some additional information about the discharge may be helpful if you would like to scale this up at some point in the future. We would suggest measuring total nitrogen and dissolved oxygen at a frequency of 1/Month (one meter below the surface of the water) between May and October at 2 sampling stations, 10 meters from the actual cages along the predominate current axis. Attached is an example of such sampling required by the Net Pen Aquaculture General Pen for the salmon net pen sites. We would suggest sampling at the midpoint between stations AA and BB and the midpoint between stations CC and DD in the example.

If you need additional information for DMR, feel free to call me or e-mail me. Thank you.

-----Original Message-----

From: Dana Morse <[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)>  
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2025 9:11 AM  
To: Wood, Gregg <[Gregg.Wood@maine.gov](mailto:Gregg.Wood@maine.gov)>  
Subject: Re: sea urchin aquaculture

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Oh, thank you! No worries....I'm slow in getting back to the topic; we're not in a rush but are trying to plug away. Thanks again--- Dana

On 12/12/25 9:02 AM, Wood, Gregg wrote:

Good morning Dana:

My apologies. I completely spaced this out. I'll send something back to you early next week. Sorry about that.

-----Original Message-----

From: Dana Morse <[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)>  
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2025 8:59 AM  
To: Wood, Gregg <[Gregg.Wood@maine.gov](mailto:Gregg.Wood@maine.gov)>; Steve Eddy <[steve.eddy@maine.edu](mailto:steve.eddy@maine.edu)>  
Subject: Re: sea urchin aquaculture

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Gregg;

Returning to this topic below: Do you have a moment to put your review of the idea (urchins in abalone cages at the Darling Center) into an email? My recollection was that during the call you didn't necessarily see an issue with it, but I'll need to have something written, to be able to provide to ME DMR.

with thanks  
Dana

On 10/22/25 3:11 PM, Wood, Gregg wrote:

Just sent both of you an invite for Teams. Talk with one or both of you tomorrow at 11.

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Eddy <[steve.eddy@maine.edu](mailto:steve.eddy@maine.edu)>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 2:29 PM  
To: Wood, Gregg <[Gregg.Wood@maine.gov](mailto:Gregg.Wood@maine.gov)>; Dana Morse  
<[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)>  
Subject: Re: sea urchin aquaculture

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am. If it's both of us maybe teams or zoom? We're in different places

Steve

On 10/22/2025 2:26 PM, Wood, Gregg wrote:

Hi Dana & Steve:

My apologies for not getting back to you on this. Are one or both of you available for a phone call around 11:00 AM tomorrow to discuss?

-----Original Message-----

From: Dana Morse <[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 9:11 AM  
To: Stephen D Eddy <[steve.eddy@maine.edu](mailto:steve.eddy@maine.edu)>; Wood, Gregg  
<[Gregg.Wood@maine.gov](mailto:Gregg.Wood@maine.gov)>  
Subject: Re: sea urchin aquaculture

EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Gregg;

Dana Morse here, from Maine Sea Grant. I just left a vm on your office number – at least I hope I got it right! – and would definitely like to pursue this topic that Steve has started off. I've been in touch with ME DMR about a potential adjustment to our lease here at the Darling Center, and we need some advice on it: it has to do with a sort of net pen for urchins, and feeding them with kelp that we grow on the same lease. Specifically, are there likely to be extra requirements from DEP for growing urchins in this manner. My cell is 207.841.4899 – call any time.  
With thanks,  
Dana

On 10/7/25 8:02 AM, Stephen D Eddy wrote:

Hi Gregg,

Our group is considering scaling sea urchin aquaculture beyond the small trial scale it's currently at. Possible approaches include using caging systems designed for urchins, with 10,000+ urchins at a site and regular, intensive feeding with seaweed. However, we're unclear about how this might intersect with NPDES permitting rules and the definition of a CAFO. How would the DEP view an urchin lease with 10,000 to 100,000 caged urchins fed with seaweed? Does it matter if the seaweed is farmed at the same site as opposed to being brought in from another location (wild harvested or farmed) or stabilized through drying or some other method?

thank you.

-Steve

--  
Dana L. Morse

Senior Extension Program Manager, Aquaculture Lead Maine Sea Grant  
and University of Maine Cooperative Extension Darling Marine Center  
193 Clark's Cove Road  
Walpole, Maine 04573 USA  
207.563.8186 (o)  
207.841.4899 (c)  
[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)

Maine Sea Grant supports the responsible use and conservation of coastal resources in order to sustain diverse coastal communities and ecosystems.

--  
Dana L. Morse

Senior Extension Program Manager, Aquaculture Lead Maine Sea Grant and  
University of Maine Cooperative Extension Darling Marine Center  
193 Clark's Cove Road  
Walpole, Maine 04573 USA  
207.563.8186 (office)  
[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)  
<https://seag/>

[rant.umaine.edu%2F&data=05%7C02%7CGregg.Wood%40maine.gov%7C04f513f3447a40aee7bf08de39883c8c%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C639011454449690160%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMtIsIkF0IjoiTWpbcIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VxvFLS0WEWjEoixv8ErtPNs%2BcKMTbT0yHvEbsq4EMg%3D&reserved=0](https://seag.rant.umaine.edu%2F&data=05%7C02%7CGregg.Wood%40maine.gov%7C04f513f3447a40aee7bf08de39883c8c%7C413fa8ab207d4b629bcdea1a8f2f864e%7C0%7C0%7C639011454449690160%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMtIsIkF0IjoiTWpbcIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VxvFLS0WEWjEoixv8ErtPNs%2BcKMTbT0yHvEbsq4EMg%3D&reserved=0)

Maine Sea Grant supports the responsible use and conservation of coastal resources in order to sustain diverse coastal communities and ecosystems.

--  
Dana L. Morse

Senior Extension Program Manager, Aquaculture Lead Maine Sea Grant and University of Maine  
Cooperative Extension Darling Marine Center  
193 Clark's Cove Road  
Walpole, Maine 04573 USA  
207.563.8186 (office)  
[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)  
<https://seagrant.umaine.edu/>

Maine Sea Grant supports the responsible use and conservation of coastal resources in order to sustain diverse coastal communities and ecosystems.

— Attachments: —

Net Pen Sampling Locations.pdf

155 KB

Thank you Ciara, and I am sorry too for this slow reply!

This is helpful, and I'll pass it along to ME DMR for their records. If this actually moves forward, I'll be sure to keep you/IFW apprised.

Appreciated–  
Dana

On 11/20/25 11:32 AM, Wentworth, Ciara wrote:

Hi Dana,

Thanks again for reaching out and apologies for the slow reply. Our wildlife biologist from your region (Keel Kemper, cc'd) tried calling last month

but I don't believe he was able to make contact. We've put our comments below, but please let me know if we are misunderstanding the proposal.

The proposal involves the experimental production of green sea urchins in net pens within an existing aquaculture site. We previously reviewed this lease site (DAM LW2) in 2024 which had three tracts, one of which was located in Tidal Waterfowl and Wading Bird Habitat (TWWH). From our records, our understanding is that the previously permitted activities at this site included the use of submerged gear (lantern nets, pearl nets, or bottom cages). Based on our understanding, the tract in question for this proposal is not located in TWWH. Predator control methods are present in the form of exclusion netting; in order to minimize risk of entanglements, we typically recommend netting with a maximum mesh size of 4 inches (10cm) with twine diameter of 3mm or larger, pulled tight and highly visible. Otherwise, minimal impacts to wildlife are anticipated given the location and existing permitted activities.

Best,

**Ciara Wentworth** (she/her)  
**Resource Biologist**  
Environmental Review Program  
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife  
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ERID 7654

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**From:** Dana Morse <[dana.morse@maine.edu](mailto:dana.morse@maine.edu)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 28, 2025 8:10 AM  
**To:** Wentworth, Ciara <[Ciara.Wentworth@maine.gov](mailto:Ciara.Wentworth@maine.gov)>  
**Cc:** Steve Eddy <[steve.eddy@maine.edu](mailto:steve.eddy@maine.edu)>; Tom Kiffney <[thomas.kiffney@maine.edu](mailto:thomas.kiffney@maine.edu)>; IFW Environmental Review <[IFWEnvironmentalreview@maine.gov](mailto:IFWEnvironmentalreview@maine.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: A marine aquaculture question, urchin farming

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi Ciera, good morning, and thank you–

Yes, the area in the PDF is correct. I've attached a screen grab from the [DMR Aquaculture Web Map](#) too. The tract in question is the long rectangle, to the north of McGuire Point; that's where we propose to deploy the urchin gear.

Dana