JANET T. MILLS GOVERNOR

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

CARL J. WILSON
COMMISSIONER

Date: September 10, 2025

To: Town of Harpswell, Municipal Officials and Harbormaster

Lease applicant

Riparian landowners within 1,000 ft. of the proposed site

ME IF&W, and DACF

GovDelivery Aquaculture List

Re: Notice of Aquaculture Lease Hearings

The Department of Marine Resources (DMR) is holding public hearings on the aquaculture proposals listed below:

Proposal 1 - APPLICATION DETAILS

Applicant Name: Benjamin Weeks

Location: New Meadows River, Harpswell
Culture Type: Suspended Culture of Marine algae

Application Type: Experimental Lease

Acreage Requested: 4.0 acres **Term Requested:** 3 years

Proposal 2 - APPLICATION DETAILS

Applicant Name: Benjamin Weeks

Location: New Meadows River, Harpswell
Culture Type: Suspended Culture of Marine algae

Application Type: Experimental Lease

Acreage Requested: 4.0 acres **Term Requested:** 3 years

The applications and site reports are posted to DMR's aquaculture webpage under 'Pending Lease Applications'. The applications contain information about the proposals including the location of the sites.

HEARING DETAILS

Public hearings on these applications will be held remotely and in person as follows:

Date: November 3, 2025
Time: Starting at 1:00 PM

Venue Name: Town of Brunswick, Council Chambers

Street Address: 85 Union Street
Town: Brunswick

The hearing for proposal 1 will begin at 1:00 pm, and the hearing for proposal 2 will begin at 1:30 pm. (Please note the start of the second hearing is subject to change based on the length of the first hearing.)

If the hearings listed above are postponed or continued, alternate public hearings will be held on **November 5**, **2025**, at the same time and location. Notice of a postponement or a continuance will be posted on DMR's website.

REGISTERING FOR THE HEARING

Persons wishing to attend the hearing and ask questions of the parties or testify under oath about the effect of the proposed lease must register to participate. The hearing will be conducted remotely (via Microsoft Teams) and in person in accordance with the adjudicatory proceeding provisions of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act (5 M.R.S.A., ch. 375, subchapter 4).

Interested persons need to complete an online registration form no later than **5:00 p.m., October 19, 2025.** If you need assistance completing the form, please contact DMR. Registration can be completed at: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture

INTERVENOR APPLICATION

Applications to intervene need to be received by DMR no later than **5:00 p.m., October 19, 2025.** 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. Contact DMR for a copy of the intervenor application.

Address questions to DMR Aquaculture: (207) 350-7815 / DMRaquaculture@maine.gov

For disability accommodations, contact: (207) 624-6553, 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. §9051 et seq. & 12 M.R.S.A. §6072(1) et seq., & 12 M.R.S.A. §6072-A(1) et seq.