

State of Maine
Department of Marine Resources
Bureau of Public Health and Aquaculture

In Re: Bailey Coffin
Standard Lease Application

Pre-Filed Testimony of
Parker Hadlock

My name is Parker Hadlock, and I am a resident of Freeport, Maine. I have been in the construction industry for 40 years, much of which has been marine construction in navigable waters in Maine. Today I am testifying as a boater, an activity I was born into that included lobstering, clamming and scalloping over the years, and continue today as a recreational pursuit. I hope you will consider my testimony valuable on navigating in and about the waters of Casco Bay.

I testify today in support of Bailey Coffin's proposed aquaculture lease north of Bustins Island. I understand a number of people have submitted comments stating that the lease would impede recreational traffic or riparian access in and about the area roughly bounded by Sow and Pigs and Pettingill Islands to the east, Bustins Island to the south, and Flying Point to the north.

I have transmitted this area for over 50 years hundreds and hundreds of times, in all sorts of boats, big and small, but most recently in my lobster type powerboat, with a draft of three feet.

The route I generally take, with variations of course, is drawn in red on Coffin Exhibit 12. This is not a route I would use at low tide.

As can be seen from Coffin Exhibit 12, it is important when transiting this unbuoyed route to stay south, much nearer to Bustins than to Sow and Pigs, because that's where the deeper water is.

The proposed lease, which as I understand it is outlined in red on Coffin Exhibit 3, would in no way impede my or anyone else's ability to navigate this area. In fact, it is more likely to keep folks from getting off course and preventing them from inadvertently ending up in the shoal water to the north.

In my view, this lease would have almost no impact on kayaks, paddleboards, canoes and other shallow draft boats. If there is enough of a tide for these boats to float, the presence of an aquaculture operation will not impede them as their shoal draft would let them explore on any side of the installation.

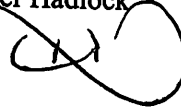
I don't believe the Flying Point residents claiming that the lease would harm their access to the water. Flying Point is a thousand feet from the lease site. All of Flying Point is surrounded by flats that dry out on every low tide. You can see that in Coffin Exhibit 12, the chart: All that olive-brown area is mud flat at low tide. The lease is not going to change that fact.

Lastly, tonight is part of a four year DMR process to get to this point. Let's support this young energetic local entrepreneur that is trying to be part of a sustainable food supply, a source of protein for a shrinking food supply, and economic engine for our state that takes advantage of our local attributes perfectly suited for this endeavor.

May 17, 2023

/s/ Parker Hadlock

Parker Hadlock



Jurat

State of Maine
Cumberland, ss

Personally appeared before me Parker Hadlock, who swore to the truth of the foregoing Pre-Filed Testimony.

Date: 5/22/23



Notary ~~Public~~/Attorney at Law

N. C. HOWARD H. WAIGHT
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