

**Shellfish Management Plan for Deer Isle Stonington Shellfish Conservation  
Committee  
October 22, 2024**

Stonington submits the following information as required by DMR Regulations Chapter 7.20, which states that the Shellfish Management Plan shall consist of:

A. A written statement of goals and objectives the municipality plans to achieve as a result of its conservation program

B. A description of the various conservation measures the municipality intends to employ to reach those goals.

It is the goal of Stonington's Shellfish Management Plan to maximize sustainable harvests for licensed clammers by limiting commercial licenses for the harvesting of shellfish such as soft shell clams, razor clams, quahogs and surf clams. These limits will be implemented by conservation efforts, attending shellfish conservation committee meetings and other shellfish related events.

We will conduct enhancement activities, in cooperation with our Nearshore Marine Resource Scientist, to increase softshell clam resources, utilizing commercial shellfish harvesters and community volunteers. Such enhancement activities will include surveying and reseeding clam flats, coastal cleanup and predation efforts.

We will restrict Non-Resident Commercial licenses by limiting them to 10% of all Resident Commercial Licenses. Restrict harvesting in areas used for conservation each year through reseeding and predation efforts. Limit the amount of clams harvested per day for recreational harvesters.

We will enhance the soft shell clam resource by seeding coves with soft shell clam seed harvested from our own flats. This seeding will happen between April - June, depending on when our Army Corp of Engineers permit is available. Seeding will be completed by vested licenses holders and community volunteers in exchange for conservation credits. This seed will be protected by netting until fall of the same year when we will take up the netting. Our effort will then be evaluated by population surveys.