

SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT PLAN
for
Town of Georgetown

The Town of Georgetown 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.

Statement of Management Goals and Objectives

Goals:

- To conserve the shellfish resources in the Town of Georgetown in order to provide an income to commercial harvesters.
- To make the shellfish resource more available to harvesters by improving water quality.
- Emphasize commercial harvest by limiting recreational harvest.

Objectives:

- Licensing: limit commercial and recreational licenses to maximize individual harvest.
- Economic: emphasize commercial harvest over recreational harvest.
- Conservation: conduct enhancement activities to increase resources and use closures to maintain resource levels.

Description of Conservation Measures

- Recommendations for license numbers will be based on population resource surveys.
- Population resource surveys will be carried out by members of the Shellfish Committee and by license-holders in exchange for conservation hours, as well as by volunteers.
- Soft shell clam and quahog seed will be purchased from Downeast Institute, seeded in April and May, and will use netting for predator protection.
- Conservation closures will remain in effect on Robinhood Cove in hopes that seeded quahogs and grow-outs from aquaculture farms will develop a wild resource.