

Shellfish Management Plan for Biddeford - 2024

The City of Biddeford 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 that Biddeford plans to achieve as a result of its conservation program.
- B. A description of the various conservation measures that Biddeford intends to employ to reach those goals.

Biddeford's Shellfish Management Plan

Goals:

- To ensure and improve the water quality at Biddeford Pool and its tributaries.
- To maintain and preserve Biddeford's strong shellfish economy, supporting the 10 commercial licenses and the additional 250 plus recreational licenses granted annually.

Objectives: A comprehensive **Plan** will be developed to guide protection activities and provide action strategies for the protection of Biddeford Pool and its tributaries. The **Plan** will establish the framework and provide individual guidance so that the City of Biddeford, Biddeford's Shellfish Commission, Federal and State agencies, and other stakeholder groups can work together across municipal and political boundaries toward the common goal of watershed protection.

Actions to Accomplish Goals and Objectives

- Biddeford's Shellfish Commission will engage State and Federal governing agencies as well as key watershed stakeholder groups, to review all previously completed work and data pertaining to water quality in Biddeford Pool and its tributaries.
- Agencies and stakeholders to be included but not limited to:
 - Maine Department of Environmental Protection
 - US Environmental Protection Agency

York County Soil & Water Conservation District
Maine Department of Marine Resources
City of Biddeford Code Enforcement
University of New England

- Biddeford's Shellfish Commission will establish a framework for the **Partnership** with the above agencies and stakeholders, starting with a Workshop where previous efforts and existing data can be shared and analyzed by all.
- A comprehensive **Plan** for monitoring and improving the water quality of Biddeford Pool and its tributaries will be developed and executed by the above-mentioned members of the **Partnership**, including project #202200009 Biddeford Pool Watershed-Based Plan being directed by the York County Soil & Water Conservation District.
- Specific actions required by the **Plan** will be detailed to include WHO will do the work, WHEN the work will be accomplished and HOW will the work be evaluated to ensure that the **Plan** is effective and accomplishing goals and objectives.
- In cooperation with the City of Biddeford's Police Department and the Maine Department of Marine Resources, provide ongoing training for the appointed Shellfish Warden who is responsible for taking and transferring water samples to the Maine Department of Marine Resources for testing.
- Biddeford's Shellfish Commission will review and update Biddeford's Shellfish Ordinances to ensure that all sustainable improvement efforts defined in the **Plan** will be on-going, continuously improving the quality of water in Biddeford Pool and its tributaries in future years.
- Biddeford's Shellfish Commission will also work to enhance the City of Biddeford's website: (1) to provide more information about proper licensing and shellfish harvesting and (2) to communicate locations of shellfish areas and closures.