

Curley-ATM

ATM – 2021 – NRAB request: revised

Article YY – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$60,000, or any other sum, for the purpose of sponsoring a field survey of the fauna and flora in Wellfleet harbor, especially shellfish and finfish, as a basis for future actions to preserve and enhance this environment, or to do or act on anything thereon.

Summary – This article seeks funds to further a broad overview of the state of Wellfleet harbor as recommended in the Harbor Management Plan (March 2021). It replicates a study by the Division of Marine Fisheries, which is now nearly 50 years old. We plan a broad survey of harbor life – finfish and wild shellfish at the top, phytoplankton and harbor grasses at the base. NRAB views this work as a critical step in identifying and preserving the health of the harbor in view of climate change and other environmental impacts. Another goal of the project is to create a process for regular and periodic renewal of the work.

(Request of the Natural Resources Advisory Board)