

Shellfish Department

June July 2017

Monthly Report

The late spring/early summer season marks the beginning of the Vibrio Management Season and the Shellfish Department has been aggressively monitoring state mandated harvest requirements. Vibrio plan compliance has generally been good however there have been a few complaints of fishermen exceeding the 2-hour exposure window on Great Island. The Great Island or “West side” area is only accessible by boat and the lack of water in our boat slip makes consistent enforcement problematic. A return to full staffing levels will greatly aid enforcement in this area. In addition we had 1 commercial fishermen accidentally fishing in the recreational area and a recreational fishermen fishing in a closed area, a grant holder accidentally loading a fish dealers truck in an illegal location. Also we had an extremely reckless incident in which a grant holder’s employees allowed a truck to become mired in a very dangerous location. (incident report attached) Our department worked with the Health and Conservation Department and the Wellfleet Conservation commission and secured 8 month suspension of the individual’s vehicle access to Egg Island. Many thanks to Wellfleet Marine Corp for assisting our department during this event.

Acting Assistant Constable Chris Manulla worked with Dan Nees the director of the Environmental Finance Center who is working in partnership with the university of Maryland. The meeting/tour was about the relationship of Wellfleet with the Shellfishing industry. Chris is working with Dan for another tour for exchanging ideas to help with growth within the shellfishing industry.

Cultchining is proceeding slowly as the barge is very tender and we are being challenged with mechanical problems. Cultching will be completed by June 23 and the quality, quantity, and placement of the shells will be better than last year. We have also been the recipients of generous donation of oyster seed from Chopper Young and will be receiving some marginal clam seed soon.

Respectfully submitted,

John Mankevetch
Acting Shellfish Constable