



**Town Shellfish Crier**  
**March 15, 2022**

**1. Herring River will open tomorrow at SUNRISE (not a half hour before) per Mass. Division of Marine Fisheries (MADMF) and Town of Wellfleet Selectboard**

The Shellfish Department took the state out to the Herring River to do water sampling yesterday, and we learned today that it passed water quality testing and is now able to be opened for the harvesting of shellfish. At its meeting tonight, the Selectboard will open the Herring River as of **SUNRISE tomorrow, March 16**, given the seal of approval by MADMF.

**2. Grant Lottery coming soon**

While the Shellfish Department continues to explore creating a new grant in the HDYLTa area, we have found one deep water grant on Egg Island that we will be preparing for a lottery according to the Town of Wellfleet's Shellfishing Policy and Regulations, Section 7.2 below. Please note that to participate in the lottery, you will need to meet all the requirements in Section 7.8.1 below and prepare and submit all the documentation listed in that section as part of the application.

When we are ready to launch the 30-day lottery application period, we will send a Crier and text messages out and will post the information at the Wellfleet and South Wellfleet post offices and the library, as well as at our office, in Town Hall and on the Town Website. Once the application period has closed, we will advertise a public hearing with the Selectboard within 14 days. Eligible names will be placed "into a hat" during the Selectboard hearing, and the Chair will extract one name without looking. That person will be awarded the grant.

Don't hesitate to contact the Shellfish Department with any questions. We are happy to announce this opportunity and look forward to working with you for a successful outcome.

7.2 Previously Established Grants that Become Available

In the event that a licensed aquaculture area previously certified by the DMF becomes available, its status shall be posted by the Shellfish Constable (see Section 3; Informing the Public of Meetings Concerning the Fishery) for a period of 30 calendar days. If more than one qualified person (as described in Section 1 under Domiciled Resident, and Section 7.8.1 Eligibility Requirements) whose name does not appear on another license applies to hold the license, the Selectboard shall hold a public lottery within 14 days to impartially determine who shall be granted the right to use such available acreage for aquaculture. No shareholder, officer, director or other individual holding a similar position having a different title but exercising a similar role, of a corporation that currently holds an aquaculture license in Wellfleet may apply for such grants.

7.8.1. Eligibility Requirements: Licenses shall only be issued to domiciled residents (See Sec.1 Definitions) of the Town, 18 years of age or older, who have the knowledge and

experience to fulfill the responsibilities specified in the license, provided that the applicant has held and been documented by the Shellfish Department using a Wellfleet commercial shellfishing permit during a period of at least three (3) of the four (4) calendar years preceding the date of application for a license. Applicant shall submit copies of state-filed catch reports. OR, provided the applicant demonstrates experience in shellfish propagation and aquaculture, continuously, over at least three (3) years preceding the date of application, documented by the Shellfish Department. This shall be supported by a letter from a license holder who employed the applicant describing the type of work performed and any other information which might be relevant. The applicant shall present a detailed five-year business plan for how s/he intends to use the grant, including shellfish species, amounts and sizes, and gear to be used, access routes and any other information relevant to proposed operations. In addition, any applicant shall not show a pattern of violations of Wellfleet's Shellfishing Policy and Regulations within the last three (3) years.

**3. LAST REMINDER: Grant Holders, please pay your 2022 grant fees by this Friday, March 18**

Many people still owe 2021 annual grant reports and 2022 annual grant fees to the Town. Each person named to a grant must pay \$25 an acre to the Town of Wellfleet per Mass. General Law, Chapter 130, Section 64. In particular, please note: **"If any such fee is not paid within six months after it becomes due the license shall thereupon be forfeited."** The Town will not issue invoices for these annual fees. Please check with Jeanne Maclauchlan at 508-349-0300, ext. 1101, **before this Friday** to make sure you have paid for 2022. Come August 28, 2022, people who have not paid their 2022 fees will forfeit their license. In addition, annual reports were also due to Jeanne Maclauchlan by February 28. Please drop reports and fees to her between **8 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 2 and 4 p.m. before this Friday**. Thank you for your assistance in keeping your grant status in good standing!

**4. Shellfish Department Annual Report**

The Shellfish Department has posted a long form of our Annual Report on the Town Website. (*An edited version will be in the Town of Wellfleet Annual Report book.*) If you would like to read about all the activities that the Shellfish Department was involved in during 2021, please take a look by clicking [here](#).

Contact Nancy at [nancy.civetta@wellfleet-ma.gov](mailto:nancy.civetta@wellfleet-ma.gov) or 617-901-7193 with ideas on how the Shellfish Department can help or improve shellfishing. Thank you!

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