



**Town Shellfish Crier**  
**8-16-2022**

**1. Working on Grants at Night**

If you are working on your grant after dark, please let the Shellfish Department know by calling our office (508) 349-0325 and leaving a message or texting Shellfish Constable Nancy Civetta at (617) 901-7193. We have received a number of complaints of loud trucks and headlamps between 10:30 and 11 p.m. Your call means we are in the loop and can reassure people that all is well. And it is required by our regulations.

Per Town of Wellfleet [Shellfishing Policy and Regulations](#) Section 7.21 **Exception to Hours of Operation:** "As required in Section 4.7, no license holder shall harvest, dig, pile, take or carry away any shellfish or shell during the period from one half (1/2) hour after sunset to one half (1/2) hour before sunrise by any method whatsoever. In the event of impending natural emergencies due to storms, ice or the like, and only after notifying the Shellfish Constable, a licensee may engage in securing stock and gear during this time period. Licensees must notify the Shellfish Constable in advance of their intention to empty seed trays and plant out seed at such times when the extreme tides needed to conduct such activities occur during this time period."

**2. Wellfleet Noise Ordinance Reminder**

Per Article VII, Section 26 of the Town of Wellfleet's [General Bylaws](#), noise must be kept down during the hours of 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. This is particularly important to remember if you are working early morning tides. Unnecessary noise is bad business. Again, we have received complaints recently, but we know we all want to be good neighbors, so we wanted to share this friendly reminder.

**3. MADMF Announces Simpler, Easier Alternative to MEPA for New Grants and Extensions**

This announcement is of particular importance to those who have requested grant extensions or have been approved by the Selectboard to move their deep-water Indian Neck grants in.

The Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is working with the [Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act](#) (MEPA) office to implement a [Special Review Procedure](#) (SRP) for shellfish aquaculture projects. Basically, they want to make it easier and faster to certify new shellfish farms. For farms between zero and two acres, a new form from MADMF will need to be filled out. For farms greater than two acres and up to 10 acres, this same form will need to be filled out, but will be submitted to MEPA for review. Farms greater than 10 acres will need to undergo a full MEPA review. This proposal is open for public comment through August 30, 2022. Below are more specific details from MEPA and the MADMF from an email

they sent to us and requested that we forward to you. Don't hesitate to call us with questions: 508-349-0325.

MEPA "requires that state agencies study the environmental consequences of their actions, including permitting and financial assistance. It also requires them to take all feasible measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate damage to the environment."

"DMF's certification of municipal aquaculture site licenses is considered a state *Agency Action* which puts aquaculture projects that meet or exceed MEPA review thresholds within MEPA jurisdiction. **The proposed SRP is intended to reduce the administrative burden and increase the efficiency of MEPA review for the majority of new shellfish aquaculture projects subject to DMF certification that have predictable and minimal individual impacts. The Shellfish Aquaculture SRP will be implemented as a 1-year pilot, and may be modified, as appropriate, after such period. In the proposed SRP an Aquaculture Description Form is utilized to replace the filing of an Environmental Notification Form (ENF) for projects greater than 2 acres but less than 10 acres.** DMF is requesting that municipalities use the Aquaculture Description Form as a supplement to existing municipal application packages for new or expanding private shellfish aquaculture licenses and that Select Boards and City Councils review the information on said forms to inform decisions on license site approval. If the local authority votes to approve the private aquaculture license and DMF issues provisional license certification, then the same form would be submitted to MEPA for review if the site is greater than 2 acres but less than 10 acres.

The proposed SRP will be noticed in the [Environmental Monitor](#) under [Special Review Procedure Request](#) on the MEPA website on August 10<sup>th</sup> and **written comments may be submitted to the MEPA Office through August 30<sup>th</sup>.**

If you wish to submit comments on the filing, they should be addressed to:

Bethany A. Card, Secretary  
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114

Comment letters may be emailed to [MEPA@mass.gov](mailto:MEPA@mass.gov) (please include "Aquaculture SRP" in the subject line) or you may comment directly online via the MEPA [public comment portal](#). Review the proposed SRP and associated Aquaculture Description Form by following the links on DMF's [Propagation Permit webpage](#)."

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!

Nancy Civetta  
Shellfish Constable  
617-901-7193

John Mankevetch  
Assistant Shellfish Constable  
508-962-0691

Chris Manulla / Jordan Halloran  
Adrienne Tardif  
Deputy Shellfish Constables  
508-962-8934 / 508-349-0325