Remote Setting Program
Background

- Federal Crab Disaster Grant supporting establishment of 30 Remote Setting Tanks (15 locations) over three years (2011, 2012, 2013)
  - 5 (2 tank sites) established in 2011

- Grants to primarily provide equipment set-up, larvae and technical support
• A Remote Setting System includes:
  – Two (2) 8’ round setting tanks
  – Each holds 300 ½ bushels bags of shell
  – Necessary pump, blower, platform and pipes
  – Larvae
  – Electricity to operate

• What was NOT included:
  – Aged, cleaned shell
  – Labor to load, unload shell, clean tanks, etc.
RSS Locations

• Based on producer/leaseholder survey, five locations were established in 2011
  • Choptank River (UMCES HPL Cambridge)
  • St. George’s Creek/Potomac (DNR Piney Point Facility)
  • Patuxent River (Pax River Naval Station Solomons)
  • West/Rhode River (CBF Discovery Village Shady Side)
  • Tangier Sound (DNR Deal Island)

• Future locations based on demand by producers
Remote Setting Site

The Deal Island RS Site at the DNR facility
Operating Guidelines

- First come, first serve
  - Need an approved lease before you can use

- 2011 available dates
  - June 6, June 20, July 4, July 20, August 1 and August 15

- Each producer offered two weeks

- If another period is open, a producer can signup and do another set
Operating Guidelines

• ORP handled scheduling each producer; coordinated shell purchase
  • Each producer received an information package and signed a liability waiver

• Producer/Leaseholder responsible for acquiring their shell. Options included:
  • Swap green, non-cleaned shell for cleaned, aged shell - $0
  • Purchase cleaned, aged shell - $1.50/bushel (loose)
  • Purchase cleaned, aged and bagged shell - $1.50 per bag (1/2 bushel)

• Once spat on shell has been removed, operator clean the tank/cleaned up area for the next grower
  • No issues experienced with any grower
Setting Operations

- UMCES provided:
  - Larvae for growers to set first two tanks
  - Two hatchery personnel provided onsite support
  - Each user got an operations checklist/instruction manual

- Factors impacting participation
  - Salinity delayed sets in upper Bay sites; leased bottom areas were too fresh for SOS
  - Leaseholders not having their lease in time
  - Hurricane – secured Deale Island, Piney, Pax River sites for potential flooding, winds
2011 Program Summary

- Operating Locations: 5
- Total Participants: 16
- Sets completed: 20
- Total larvae used: 218M
- Estimated SOS produced and planted: 32M SOS

- Bagged Shell Used: 9,950 Bags (4,975 bushels)
- Loose Shell Used: 1,270 bushels
- Crushed Shell Used: 1,800 bushels

All watermen purchased shell from the State
# 2011 RS Schedule

## Remote Setting Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>6-Jun</th>
<th>20-Jun</th>
<th>4-Jul</th>
<th>20-Jul</th>
<th>1-Aug</th>
<th>15-Aug</th>
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<td>Scott Russell</td>
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*Note: Mike McWilliams, Scott Russell, Joan/Ron Welch, Brian Russell, Mike Bowles, Mike Lindemon, Eric Wisner, Ernie Nichols, Mike Lindemon*
2012 Planning

• UMCES, UMD Extension and ORP reviewing 2011 operations and planning for 2012

• Identify new setting locations and/or add additional tanks to existing sites

• Explore lengthening number of sets allocated per RST location and/or pre-staging shell at RST locations
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