

Opportunities in Shellfish Aquaculture



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Maryland Shellfish Aquaculture Conference

Program

- Business Planning, Finance and Marketing
- Getting Your Business Organized
- Rebuilding Our Industry
- Production Planning
- Assuring Quality Products

“TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE MARYLAND SEAFOOD AND AQUACULTURE INDUSTRIES” 2003

Vision Statement

To create economic growth and increase employment by developing a sustainable aquaculture industry that produces high quality fish, shellfish, and plant products for commercial sale and environmental restoration purposes.

“Aquaculture: For The Economy, For The Environment”

MARYLAND AQUACULTURE WORK GROUP REPORT 2004

- *Establish a single point of contact for aquaculture applications*
- *Restructure the Maryland Aquaculture Advisory Committee as a Coordinating Council*
- *Establish Aquaculture Enterprise Zones*
- *Create an Aquaculture Development Board through the University of Maryland*
- *Provide support for Extension services available through the University of Maryland*
- *Support annual conferences providing technical expertise for the development and growth of the aquaculture industry*
- *Provide resources for surveying and certifying shellfish growing waters and enterprise zones*
- *Provide resources to conduct permitting, enforce regulations, and enforce private property rights*

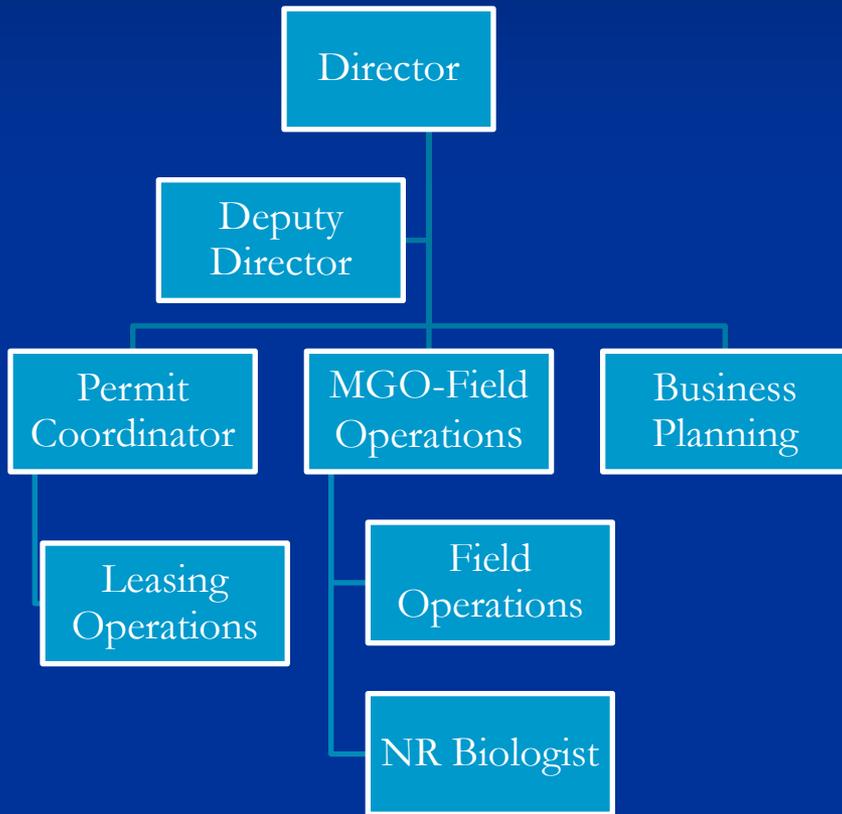


Support from our Governor and Maryland General Assembly



- Governor O'Malley's "Oyster Restoration and Aquaculture Development Plan"
 - Expand aquaculture leasing opportunities
 - Encourage the development of aquaculture businesses
 - Bring back our native oyster
 - Create new jobs and economic activity
- General Assembly Legislation
 - Restructured lease laws by a unanimous vote, lifting leasing moratoriums and opening new areas for leasing
 - Streamlined permitting and consolidated State Agency authority for aquaculture permitting at DNR to improve efficiency in application processing and lease issuance

DNR AQUACULTURE DIVISION



- Administration of the Coordinating Council and operation of the Review Board
- Coordinate permitting/leasing activities between State & Federal agencies
- Assist applicants with locating sites and developing application materials
- Maryland Grow Oysters Program
- Field operations for technical assistance, surveys and compliance
- Collaborate with UM Extension to provide business planning assistance



U.S. Army Corps
Of Engineers
Baltimore District



Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony E. Brown, Lt. Governor
John R. Griffin, Secretary
Joseph P. G. & Co., Deputy Secretary

JOINT APPLICATION FOR STATE COMMERCIAL SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE LEASE AND CORPS OF ENGINEERS FEDERAL PERMIT

APPLICATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE.

Checks should be made payable to State of Maryland
Department of Natural Resources according to the following
fee structure*:

- \$300 Submerged Land Lease
- \$150 Aquaculture Enterprise Zone (AEZ) Lease
- \$0 Water Column Lease (not within AEZ)

Received Date (stamp below)

Paid Date: _____

For office use only

PART I - All Applicants

Primary Applicant Information (name as it should appear on lease documents)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (h): _____ (c): _____

Email: _____

Is applicant over the age of 18? Yes No

Tidal Fishing License holder? Yes No #:

Other aquaculture leases or tidal wetlands licenses held or pending:

Is Primary Applicant a Corporation?*

Yes No

State of Incorporation: _____

Is the corporation organized under
the laws of the state?

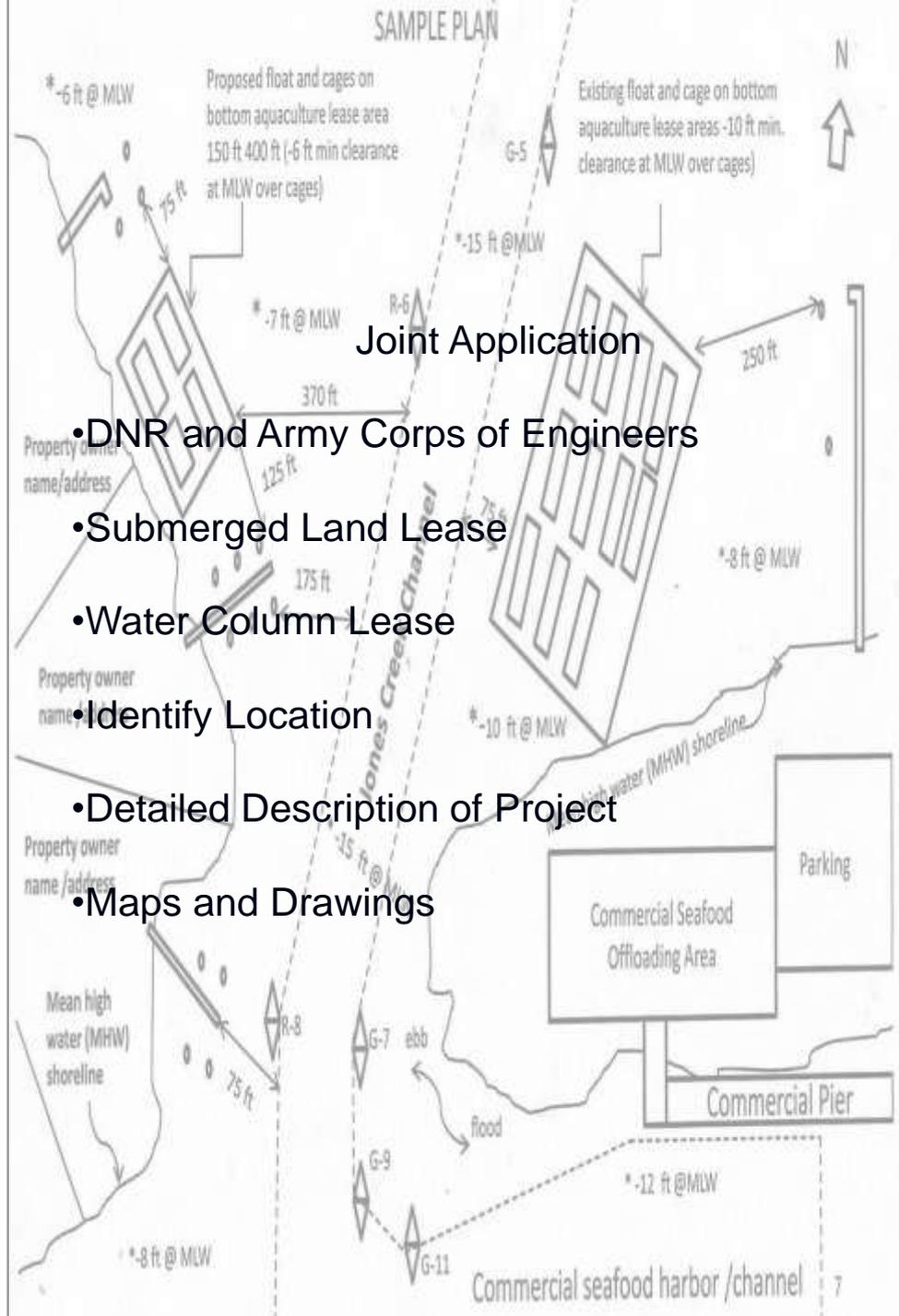
Yes No

Is more than 50% of the stock in the
corporation owned by residents of
the State of Maryland?*

Yes No

SDAT ID#: _____
(If you do not know what this is, see
<http://www.dat.state.md.us/>.)

You are eligible for a lease in the
State of Maryland only if you
answered yes to all of the above.
Please provide the corporation name
AND resident agent's name, address,
telephone phone number(s), and
email on an additional page.



Joint Application

- DNR and Army Corps of Engineers

- Submerged Land Lease

- Water Column Lease

- Identify Location

- Detailed Description of Project

- Maps and Drawings

Shellfish Leasing Process

Past Process:

Department of Agriculture
Department of Natural Resources
Department of Environment
US Army Corps of Engineers
Board of Public Works

Issuance – 6 months to 1 year +

Current Process:

Department of Natural Resources
US Army Corps of Engineers

Issuance – 120 days

The Regional General Permit further streamlines the Federal process to include issuance within 60 days to those projects that qualify under the conditions established in the RGP-1.



Aquaculture Initiatives

Shellfish Aquaculture Loan Program

DNR and MARBIDCO partnership
Provide access to start-up capital
Low interest loans with a subsidy

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

USDA/NRCS
Provides funding for planting oysters and shell
Cost-share assistance for approved practices

Aquaculture Education and Training Program

UMD and ORP
Remote setting workshops
Hatchery short course
Use of regional setting systems
Annual aquaculture conferences

MD Shellfish Aquaculture

A person wearing a wetsuit is standing on the deck of a boat, handling a large, dark, rectangular cage filled with shellfish. The boat is on the water, and the background shows a clear blue sky and distant land.

- ❖ 400 active shellfish leases – 3958 acres
 - ❖ 384 Submerged Land Bottom leases
 - ❖ 16 Water Column Leases (cages & floats)
- ❖ Over 100 lease applications received in past year-2800 acres
 - ❖ submerged land leases
 - ❖ 10 issued - 10 pending issuance
 - ❖ 25 under review
 - ❖ water column leases
 - ❖ 10 issued - 2 pending issuance
 - ❖ 17 under review