

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



STEVE LEVY
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

THOMAS A. ISLES, A.I.C.P.
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

Issue Date: January 19, 2010
Expiration Date: March 22, 2010

Suffolk County Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Program in Peconic Bay and Gardiners Bay

PUBLIC NOTICE - PART A

REQUEST FOR WRITTEN COMMENTS ON PROPOSED SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE LEASE SITES

Notice is hereby given that the Suffolk County Department of Planning has received 25 applications for Shellfish Aquaculture Leases in Peconic Bay pursuant to Local Law 25-2009, *A Local Law Establishing the Suffolk County Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Program in Peconic Bay and Gardiners Bay*. These applications were solicited under Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Application Cycle #1 from shellfish farmers who must convert their New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Temporary Marine Area Use Assignments into Suffolk County Shellfish Aquaculture Leases. Applicants were asked to select up to three preferred lease site locations in priority order. Under the administrative procedures described in the *Lease Program Management Plan* (August 2009), these alternative lease sites are subject to review and comment by the public, as notified in this Public Notice. A total of 73 lease sites were identified in the lease applications. Pertinent data and information on each of the 25 applications received, numbered SCALP-10-01-01 to SCALP-10-01-25, including the location (center point coordinates) of the lease sites, are contained in Attachment A to this Public Notice.

Suffolk County Shellfish Aquaculture Leases authorize access to public underwater lands for the controlled or partially controlled raising, breeding, growing, and containment of shellfish through on-bottom and/or off-bottom culture techniques for a term of 10 years. Pending the issuance of permits by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and other regulatory agencies, lessees would be allowed to deploy shellfish culture gear on their leases to facilitate shellfish grow-out activities.

Shellfish Aquaculture Leases may either be 2.5 or 5-acre circular plots, or a 10-acre square. The proposed sites are all located within the adopted Shellfish Cultivation Zone. All applicants have been participating in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Temporary Marine Area Use Assignment program without incident.

LOCATION
H. LEE DENNISON BLDG. - 4TH FLOOR
100 VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY

MAILING ADDRESS
P. O. BOX 6100
HAUPPAUGE, NY 11788-0099

Phone: (631) 853-5191
Fax: (631) 853-4044

The Aquaculture Lease Status Map shows the location of the 73 lease sites submitted for consideration under Lease Application Cycle #1. This map is available for viewing at the Interactive Aquaculture Lease Status Website, which can be accessed at www.suffolkcountyny.gov/aquaculture. This map shows the regional distribution of the sites throughout Peconic Bay and Gardiners Bay. It is emphasized that only about one-third of the lease sites could potentially be leased at this time.

This Public Notice and maps showing the sites selected by each applicant for review have been posted at the following locations:

- Suffolk County Department of Planning, 100 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788
- Suffolk County Clerk's Office, 310 Center Drive, Riverhead, NY 11901
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Bureau of Marine Resources Office, 205 N. Belle Mead Road, East Setauket, NY 11733
- Town of East Hampton Clerk's Office, 159 Pantigo Road, East Hampton, NY 11937
- Town of Riverhead Clerk's Office, 200 Howell Avenue, Riverhead, NY 11901
- Town of Shelter Island Clerk's Office, 38 N. Ferry Road, Shelter Island, NY 11964
- Town of Southampton Clerk's Office, 116 Hampton Road, Southampton, NY 11968
- Town of Southold Clerk's Office, 53095 Route 25, Southold, NY 11971
- Town of East Hampton Trustee's Office, 267 Bluff Road, Amagansett, NY 11930
- Town of Southampton Trustee's Office, Trustee Dept., 116 Hampton Road, Southampton, NY 11968
- Town of Southold Trustee's Office, Town Hall Annex, 54375 Route 25, Southold, NY 11971

This Public Notice and all maps are also available for viewing at www.suffolkcountyny.gov/aquaculture.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All comments regarding the lease applications must be prepared in writing and mailed to the contact person listed below prior to the expiration date of this notice – March 22, 2010. Such comments should be targeted to a specific lease site(s) by referencing the applicable Lease Site Map ID #(s), as shown on Attachment A in this Public Notice. The comments should include supporting information and data to the maximum extent possible.

All objections require a notarized letter highlighting the issue in question. Those parties raising an objection to the leasing of a particular site or sites based on reasons of natural productivity and commercial fishery, should send a notarized letter, stating the particular reason(s) for the objection based on what was harvested and sold during the previous five years from the site(s) in question. Documentation supporting the claim should also be provided, including a copy of the parties' commercial harvest license, and documentation on harvests and sales, as applicable.

Contact: Susan Filipowich, Environmental Planner
Suffolk County Department of Planning
H. Lee Dennison Bldg. - 4th Floor
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P.O. Box 6100
Hauppauge, NY 11788-0099