



## Department of Natural Resources

# Memorandum

**To:** Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator

**From:** Chris Southwood, DNR Director

**Date:** October 6, 2020

**Subject:** Massachusetts Maritime Academy  
Aquaculture Hearing October 6, 2020

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Selectmen,

As per MGL Chap 130 Sec 60, this Public Hearing was duly advertised in a local newspaper, The Cape Cod Times, on September 24, 2020 and a Notice of Public hearing was posted in three public places, Town of Bourne Homepage (News and Announcements), Town Hall, and three Post Offices (Buzzards Bay, Pocasset and Cataumet) on September 24, 2020. The 1 abutter to this proposed aquaculture grant has been notified.

I have reviewed and support the application submitted on September 3, 2020 by Mr. Professor William Hubbard (Massachusetts Maritime Academy) of 101 Academy Drive, Bourne for a proposed aquaculture operation.

Massachusetts Maritime Academy requests permission to deploy three 8 foot by 20 foot floating shellfish upwellers. These structures will be immediately adjacent to their existing floating pier system. MMA anticipates growing hard clams and other shellfish in the upwellers. The purpose of the private foundation grant that funds these units is for scientific and academic studies. When studies are completed, the shellfish will be transplanted at the direction of local towns, starting with Bourne, to be used to seed local shellfish recreational areas. A long term partnership with MMA and the town of Bourne shellfish program will be developed.

There would be no impacts to any public recreational water activities at this location.

Unlike a permit for growing shellfish on the bottom in tidal areas, this method of shellfish propagation would not require the approval of the Bourne Conservation Commission.

It is the recommendation of the Natural Resources Department to approve this aquaculture license for the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

The public hearing for this proposed permit was duly advertised in the Cape Cod Times on September 24, 2020. For your reference I have included the State Aquaculture Statute and local Aquaculture Regulations and Procedures.