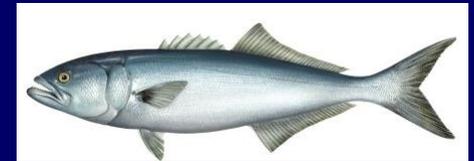


RI Department of Environmental Management

Marine Fisheries

PUBLIC HEARING

February 13,
2017



Hearing Items

1a. Recreational Summer Flounder

1b. Recreational Tautog

1c. Commercial Tautog

1d. Commercial Bluefish

1e. Recreational Scup

1f. Recreational Black Sea Bass

2a. Recreational Striped Bass

2b. Commercial Striped Bass general category

2c. Commercial Striped Bass floating fish traps

3. Commercial menhaden

4a. Proposed Shellfish Management Areas

4b. Proposed modification to the Bristol harbor SMA boundary



Hearing Item 1a: Recreational Summer Flounder

Management Options:

Option	Minimum size	Season	Possession Limit
Status Quo*	18"	May 1 – Dec. 31	8 fish
<u>ASMFC Option 1:</u>	18" <u>19"</u>	May 1 – Dec. 31	8 <u>4</u> fish
<u>ASMFC Option 2:</u> <u>Default:</u>	18" <u>19"</u>	May 1 – Dec. 31 <u>June 1 – September 15</u>	8 <u>3</u> fish
<u>Workshop Option 3:</u>	18"	May 1 – Dec. 31 <u>Aug 4</u>	8 <u>4</u> fish
<u>Workshop Option 4:</u>	18"	May 1 – Dec. 31 <u>July 2 – August 31</u>	8 <u>4</u> fish

* Status quo is not an option for 2017



Hearing Item 1b: Recreational Tautog

Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Rec. and P/C Season	Poss. Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	16"	April 15 – May 31:	3 fish/person/day*
		June 1 – July 31:	Closed
		Aug. 1 – 3 rd Sat. in Oct:	3 fish/person/day*
		3 rd Sat. in Oct. – Dec. 15:	6 fish/person/day*
<u>Option 2:</u>	16"	April 15 – May 31:	3 fish/person/day*
		June 1 – July 31:	Closed
		Aug. 1 – 3rd Sat. in Oct <u>Oct. 14</u> :	3 fish/person/day*
		3rd Sat. in Oct. <u>Oct. 15</u> – Dec. 15:	6 fish/person/day*

* max. 10 fish/vessel (n/a for P/C)



Hearing Item 1c: Commercial Tautog

Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Season	Allocation	Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	16"	April 15 – May 31	1/3	10 fish/vsl/day
		June 1 – July 31	--	Closed
		Aug. 1 – Sept. 15	1/3	10 fish/vsl/day
		Oct. 15 – Dec. 31	1/3	10 fish/vsl/day
<u>Option 2:</u> Industry	16"	April 15 – May 31	1/3 <u>25%</u>	10 fish/vsl/day
		June 1 – July 31	--	Closed
		Aug. 1 – Sept. 15	1/3 <u>25%</u>	10 fish/vsl/day
		Oct. 15 – Dec. 31	1/3 <u>50%</u>	10 fish/vsl/day



Hearing Item 1d: Commercial Bluefish

Management Options:

Option	Min. size	Sub-period	Poss. Limit (lbs/vsl/wk)	2017 Projected Poundage
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	18"	1/1 – 4/30	500	12,194
		5/1 – 11/15	4,000	343,784
		11/16 – 12/31	500	17,462
<u>Option 2:</u>	18"	1/1 – 4/30	500	12,194
		5/1 – 11/ 15 <u>11</u>	4,000 <u>6,000</u>	376,493
		11/ 16 <u>12</u> – 12/31	500	21,867
<u>Workshop Option 3:</u> Industry	18" <u>12"</u>	1/1 – 4/30	500	12,194
		5/1 – 11/ 15 <u>11</u>	4,000 <u>6,000</u>	376,493
		11/ 16 <u>12</u> – 12/31	500	21,867



Hearing Item 1e: Recreational Scup

Management Options:

Option	Mode	Min. Size	Season/Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	General Fishery	10"	<u>May 1 – Dec. 31:</u> 30 fish
	P/C	10"	<u>May 1 – Aug. 31:</u> 30 fish <u>Sept. 1 – Oct. 31:</u> 45 fish <u>Nov. 1 – Dec. 31:</u> 30 fish
	Special Shore	9"	<u>May 1 – Dec. 31:</u> 30 fish



Hearing Item 1f: Recreational Black Sea Bass

Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Season	Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	15"	6/24 – 8/31	3 fish
		9/1 – 12/31	7 fish
<u>Workshop</u> <u>Option 2:</u>	15"	6/24 – 8/31	3 fish
		9/1 – 12/31 <u>10/21</u>	7 fish
<u>Workshop</u> <u>Option 3:</u>	15"	6/24 <u>7/6</u> – 8/31	3 fish
		9/1 – 12/31	7 fish
<u>Workshop</u> <u>Option 4:</u>	15"	6/24 <u>5/25</u> – 8/31	3 fish
		9/1 – 12/31 <u>9/21</u>	7 fish
		<u>10/22</u> – 12/31	7 fish
<u>Workshop</u> <u>Option 5:</u>	15"	6/24 <u>10</u> – 8/31	3 fish
		9/1 – <u>9/21</u>	7 fish
		<u>10/12</u> – 12/31	7 fish



Hearing Item 2a: Recreational Striped Bass

Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Possession Limit	Season
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	28"	1 fish/person/day	Open year round



Hearing Item 2b: Commercial Striped Bass – General Category

Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Season	Allocation	Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	34"	5/29 – 8/31 (closed Fri & Sat)	70%	5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vsl)
		9/8 – 12/31 (closed Fri & Sat)	30%	5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vsl)
<u>Option 2:</u> Industry	34"	5/ 29 <u>28</u> – 8/ 31 <u>14</u> (closed Fri & Sat)	70 <u>60</u> %	5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vsl)
		9/8 <u>8/15</u> – 12/31 (closed Fri & Sat)	30 <u>40</u> %	5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vsl)
<u>Option 3:</u> Industry	34"	5/ 29 <u>15</u> – 8/31 <u>9/2</u> (closed Fri & Sat)	70 <u>80</u> %	5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vsl)
		9/ 8 <u>3</u> – 12/31 (closed Fri & Sat)	30 <u>20</u> %	5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vsl)



Hearing Item 2c: Commercial Striped Bass - Floating Fish Traps

Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Possession Limit	Season
<u>Option 1:</u> Status Quo	26"	Unlimited	4/1 – 12/31
<u>Option 2</u> <u>industry</u> <u>proposal:</u> Adjust poss. limit trigger	<u>Proposed language:</u> <u>(C) Possession limit: Unlimited. Once seventy percent (70%) of the seasonal allocation is projected to be harvested the possession limit shall be 200 pounds per floating fish trap licensee per calendar day.</u>		



Hearing Item 3: Commercial Menhaden

- Proposal 1: Change bycatch limit as defined in ASMFC Addendum I to Amendment 2

16.1.2 (B) Once the quota has been reached, the fishery will close for directed fisheries, including but not limited to purse seine operations, and ~~a the landing~~ bycatch limit for ~~non-directed fisheries will be 6,000 pounds per vessel per day~~ will be in effect. The bycatch limit will be:

(1) 6,000 pounds per vessel per day for non-directed fisheries.

(2) If two commercially licensed individuals are harvesting from the same vessel, 2 daily possession limits (12,000 pounds per vessel per day) may be harvested from one of the following gear types: pound nets, fish traps, anchored/staked gill nets, and fyke nets.



Hearing Item 3 cont'd: Commercial Menhaden

- Proposal 2: Modify location of Fall opening for purse seining

(E) Fall opening within the Menhaden Management Area:

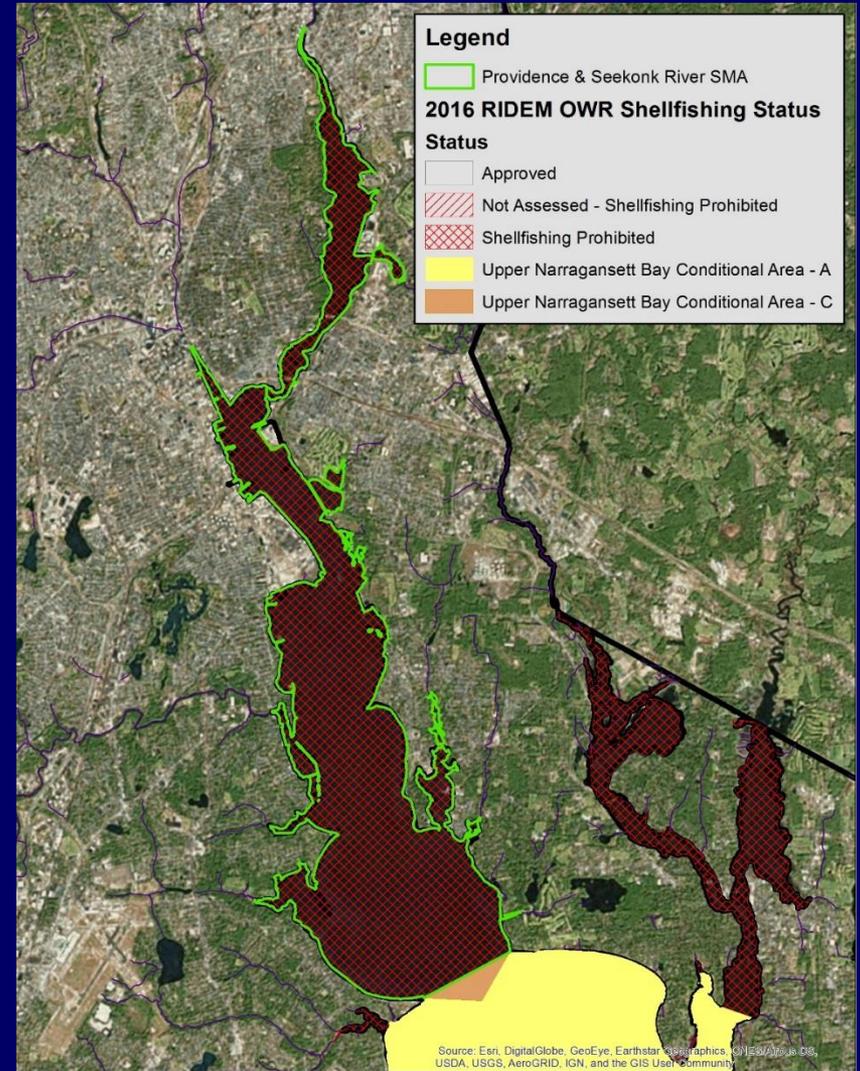
(1) Beginning September 1 annually, the ~~area south of a line from the Jamestown and Newport Bridges, and the area south of a line from Fogland Point to Sandy Point in the Sakonnet River, to the southern extent of the~~ Management Area will be open to the harvest of menhaden by purse seine as long as the states quota has not been exhausted or if the Episodic Event Set Aside Program, as described in this section, has been enacted in RI.

(2) Possession limit: 25,000 pounds per vessel per day.



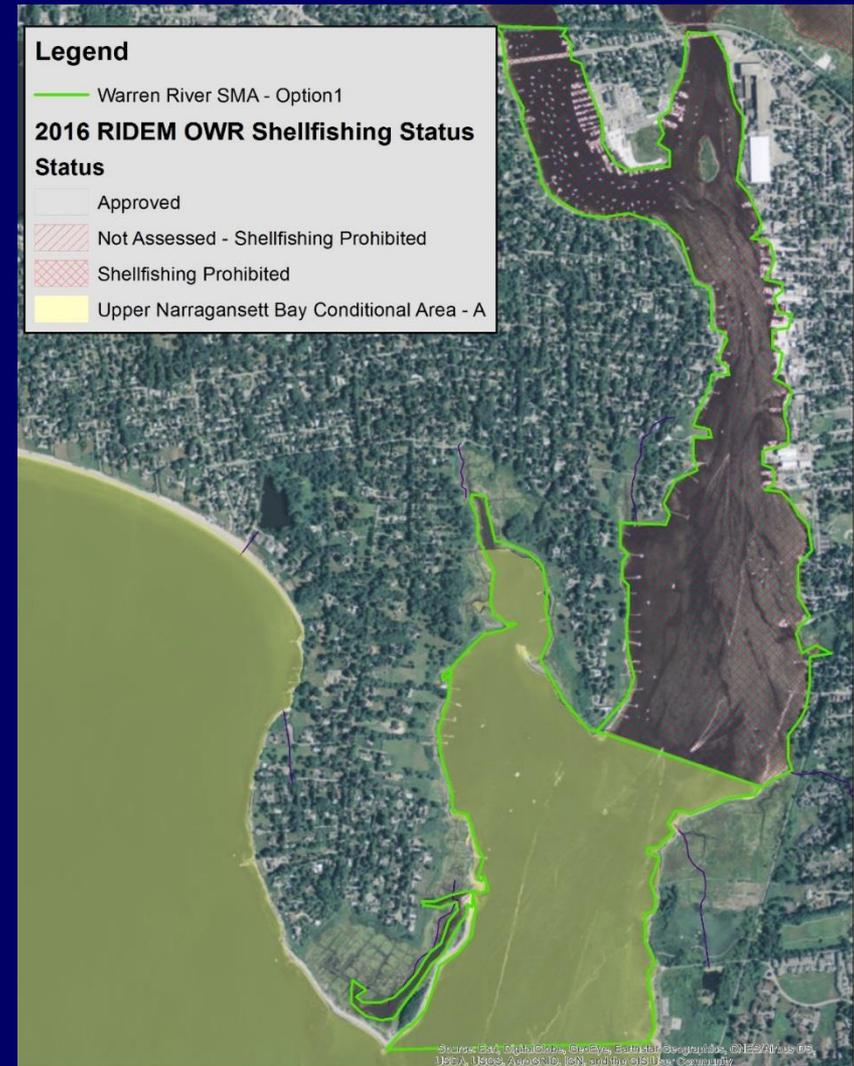
Hearing Item 4a: Proposed Shellfish Management Areas

- Providence and Seekonk Rivers Shellfish Management Area



Hearing Item 4a cont'd: Proposed Shellfish Management Areas

- Warren River Shellfish Management Area
- Option 1 - Division proposal:
 - Include portion of Conditional Area A north of Rumstick Point and closed waters of the Barrington, Palmer, and Warren Rivers
- Option 2 - Division proposal:
 - Include only closed waters of the Barrington, Palmer, and Warren Rivers



Hearing Item 4a cont'd: Proposed Shellfish Management Areas

- Town Pond Shellfish Management Area



Hearing Item 4a cont'd: Proposed Shellfish Management Areas

- Narrow River Shellfish Management Area



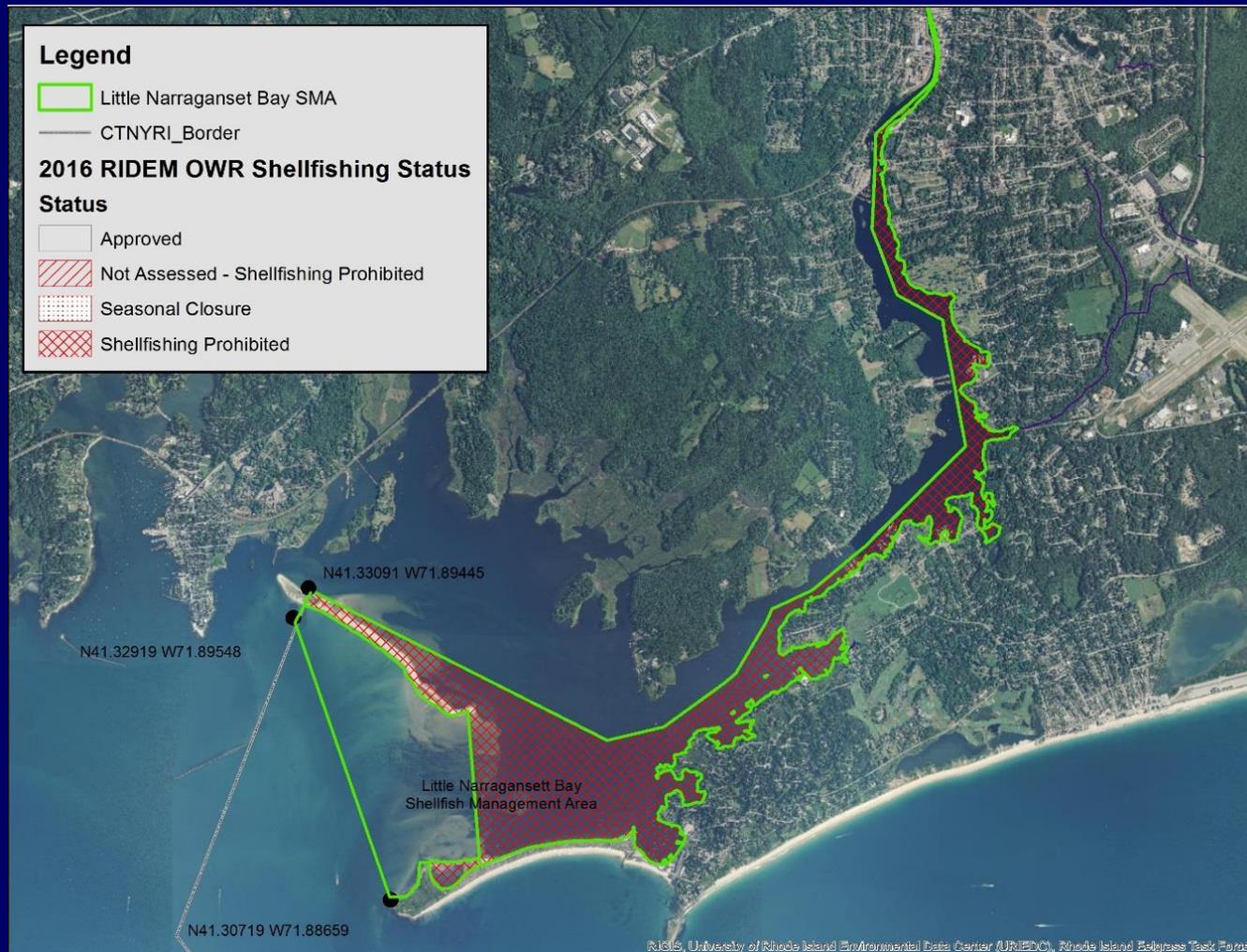
Hearing Item 4a cont'd: Proposed Shellfish Management Areas

- Green Hill Pond Shellfish Management Area

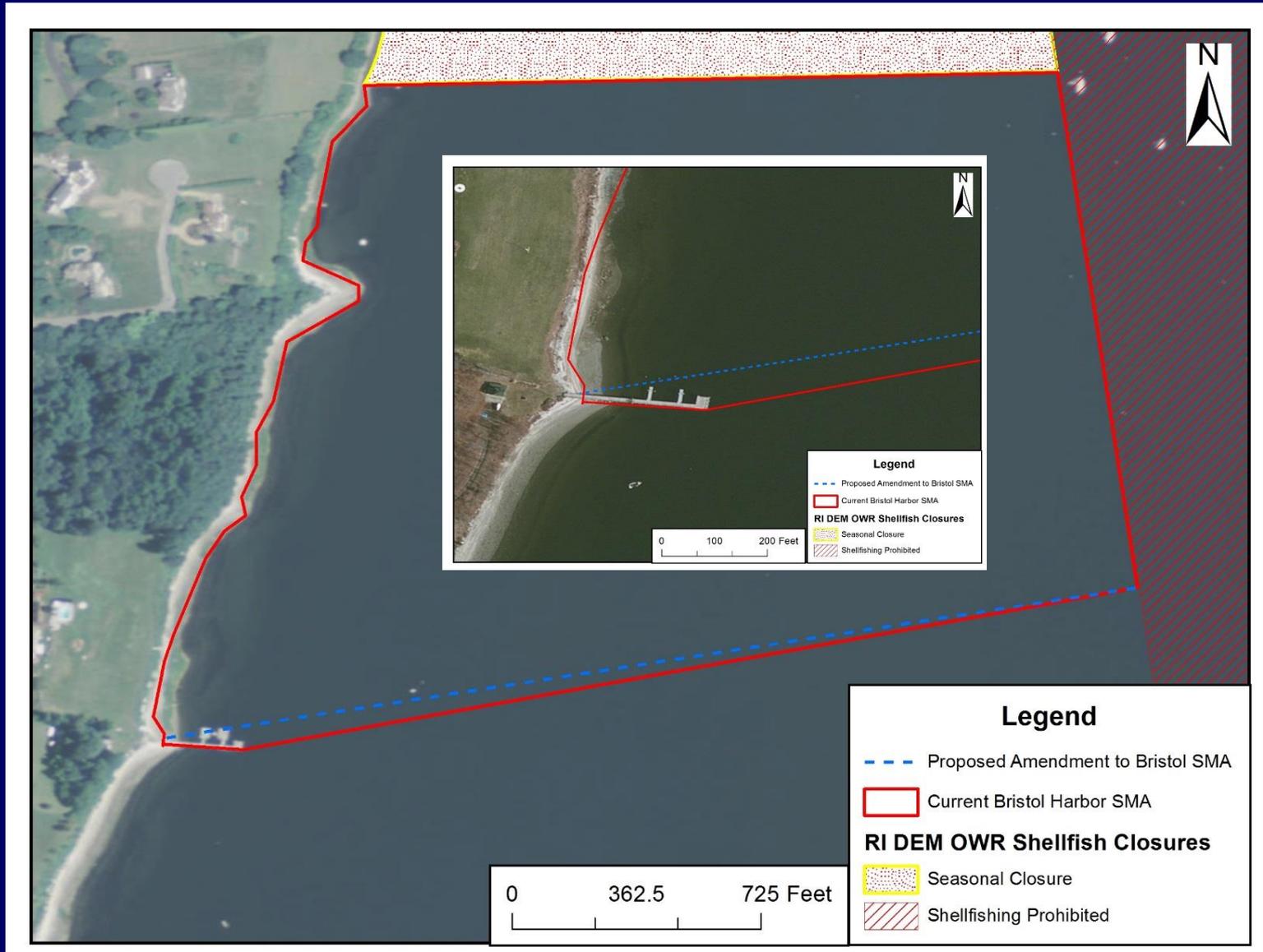


Hearing Item 4a cont'd: Proposed Shellfish Management Areas

- Little Narragansett Bay/Pawcatuck River



Hearing Item 4b: Proposed modification to the Bristol harbor SMA boundary



Hearing Item 4b: Proposed modification to the Bristol harbor SMA boundary

4.7.10 Bristol Harbor: Described as the marine waters of Bristol Harbor and its tributaries located southerly of a line extending between CRMC permitted dock #419 located at 163 Poppasquash Road (~~so-called Rockwell's Dock~~) in the town of Bristol ~~to~~ and the northwest corner of the Rockwell Pier municipal parking lot ~~in Bristol Harbor~~ in the town of Bristol; and north of a line ~~beginning~~ extending from the north side of CRMC Permitted Dock #1601 where it meets the shoreline, located at the boat house to the rear of 363 Poppasquash Road (~~so-called Johnson's Dock~~) in the town of Bristol and the northwest corner of the ~~Coast Guard Dock~~ U.S. Coast Guard station pier in the town of Bristol Harbor. ~~The area is bordered on the west by the three (3) foot contour line along the shore between Dock #419 and Dock # 1601 and on the east by the existing pollution line.~~



End of Slides!

