

**Shellfish Advisory Panel**  
**January 11, 2017, 4:30PM**  
DEM Fort Wetherill Marine Laboratory  
3 Fort Wetherill Road, Jamestown, RI

**AGENDA**

1. Review of New Prospective Shellfish Management Areas\*
  - a. Providence and Seekonk Rivers
  - b. Warren River
  - c. Town Pond
  - d. Narrow River
  - e. Green Hill Pond
  - f. Little Narragansett Bay and Pawcatuck River
  
2. Review of Prospective Shellfish Management Area Amendment\*
  - a. Bristol Harbor

\*Non-voting items

## Purpose of today's meeting

- Provide an overview of proposed Shellfish Management Areas that will go to public notice later this week.
- This is an informational only meeting, designed to provide information and answer questions from industry on these areas and the process in general.
- The timing was geared to provide ample time for industry to consider these proposals and coalesce their comments.
- There will be public workshop on these items on Feb 6, 2017.

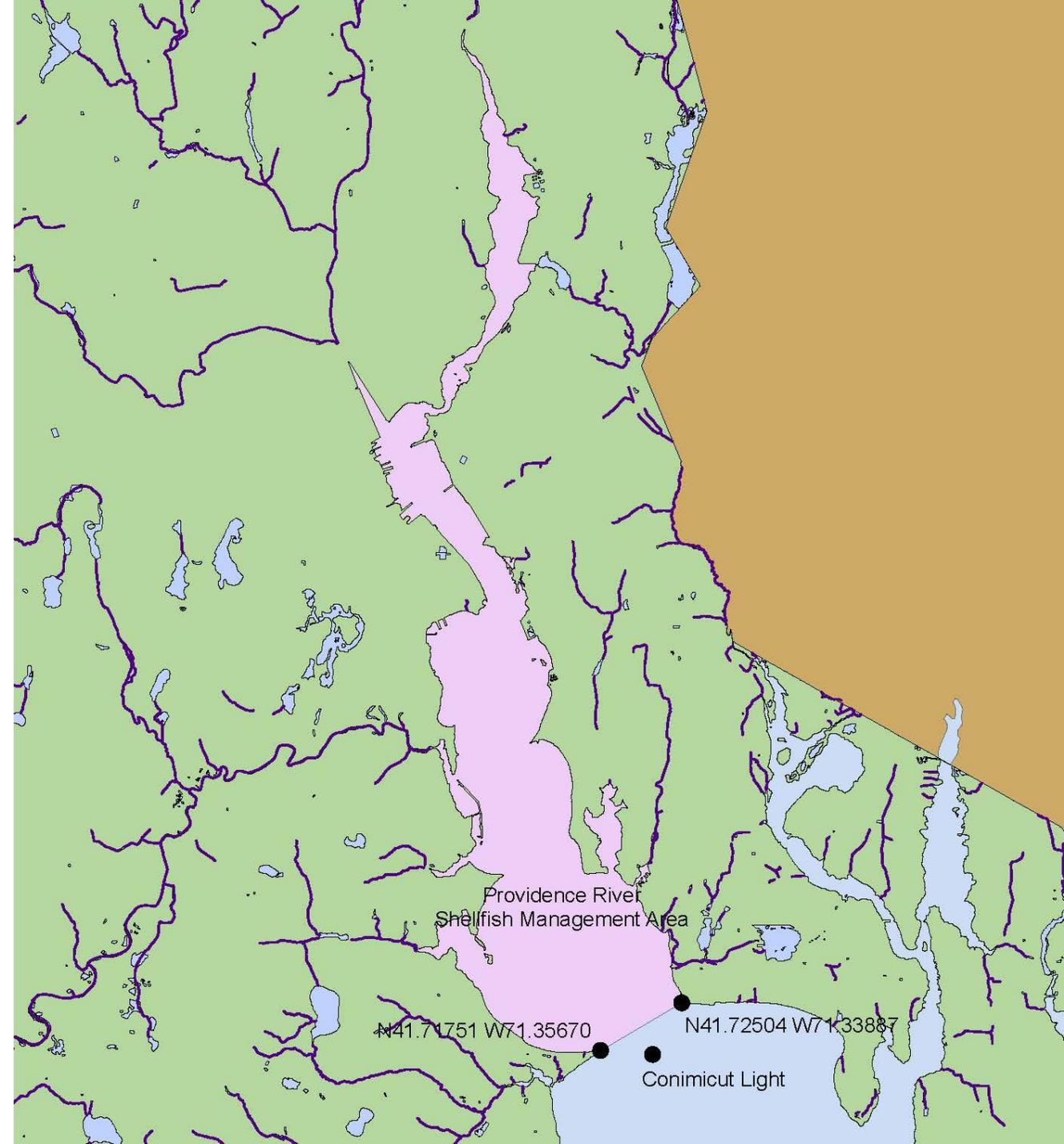
# Why create a Shellfish Management Area?

- **RI General Law Title 20**
- **§20-3-4 Shellfish and marine life management areas.** The council may recommend to the director of environmental management, the designation of certain portions of the shores of the public waters of the state, or land within the state covered by tidewater at either high or low tide, or portions of the free and common fisheries of the state as shellfish or marine life project management areas *for the purpose of enhancing the cultivation and growth of marine species, managing the harvest of marine species, facilitating the conduct by the department of experiments in planting, cultivating, propagating, managing, and developing any and all kinds of marine life, and any other related purpose*. The designation shall be pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, chapter 35 of title 42, and shall be by reference to fixed landmarks. The council, upon the designation of a management area, shall propose any rules and regulations as it shall deem necessary *for the protection and management of the management area and the animal life and property in the management area, including the exclusion or restriction of persons from the area or the prohibition of certain activities within the areas or other restrictions as it may deem necessary*. Upon the designation of a management area, the director of environmental management shall place any stakes, bounds, buoys or markers with the words "Rhode Island department of environmental management" plainly marked on them, as will approximate the management area. Failure to place or maintain the stakes, bounds, buoys, or markers shall not be admissible in any judicial or administrative proceeding. The director may make any experiments or conduct any activities as in his or her discretion are appropriate in these management areas.

# 1. Review of New Prospective Shellfish Management Areas\*

## Providence and Seekonk Rivers

- RI DEM OWR Shellfishing Status:
  - Unapproved – Harvest Prohibited
- Purpose :
  - Facilitate potential future oyster and/or shellfish restoration and habitat restoration/enhancement work
  - Allow for management of brood stock



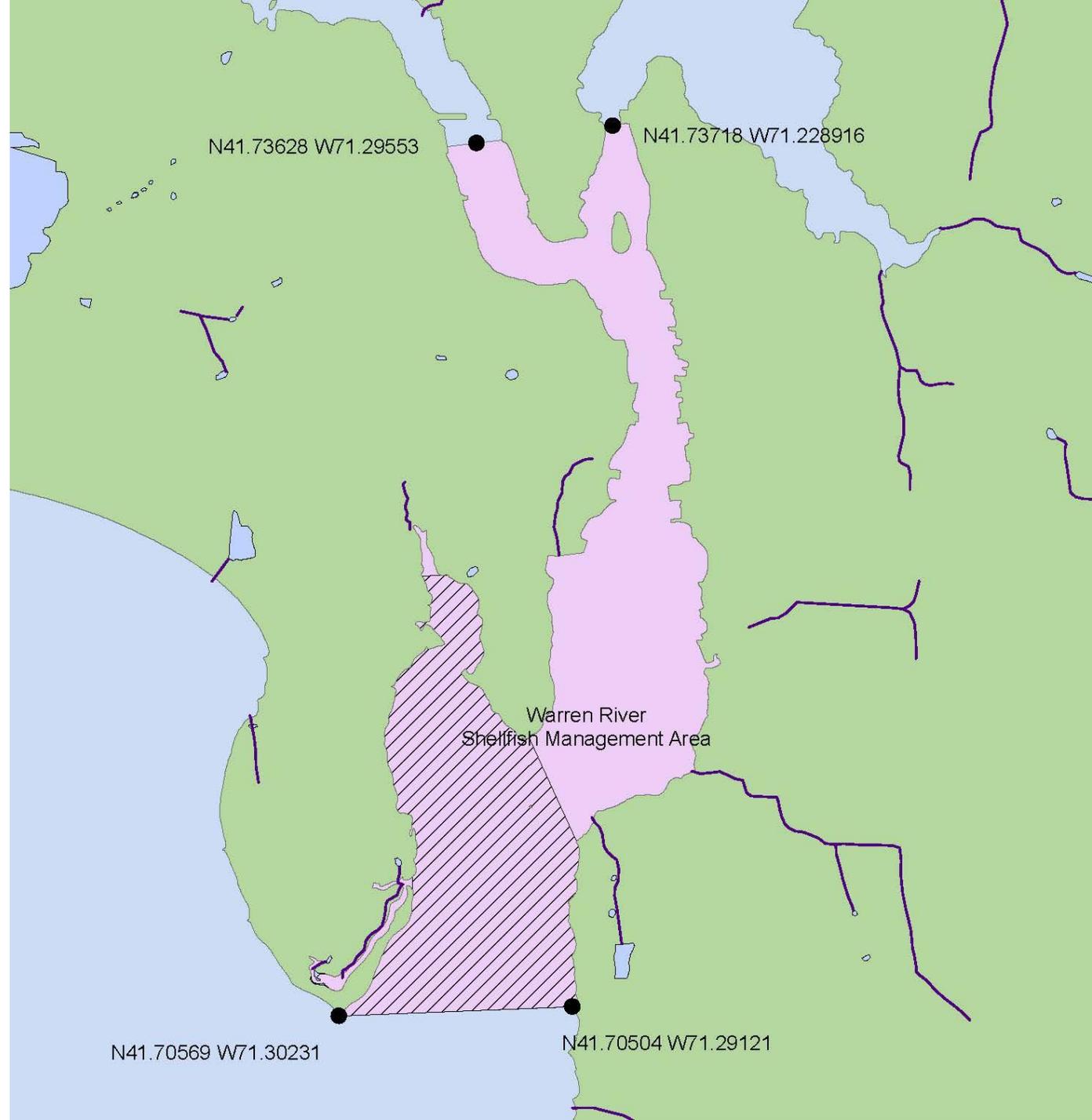
# 1. Review of New Prospective Shellfish Management Areas\*

## Warren River

- RI DEM OWR Shellfishing Status:

- Unapproved – Harvest Prohibited (Barrington, Palmer, and Warren Rivers)
- Conditionally Approved (Area-A)

- Purpose: Facilitate oyster restoration/enhancement work AND potential alternative harvest/management regimes for restored/enhanced areas



# 1. Review of New Prospective Shellfish Management Areas\*

## Town Pond

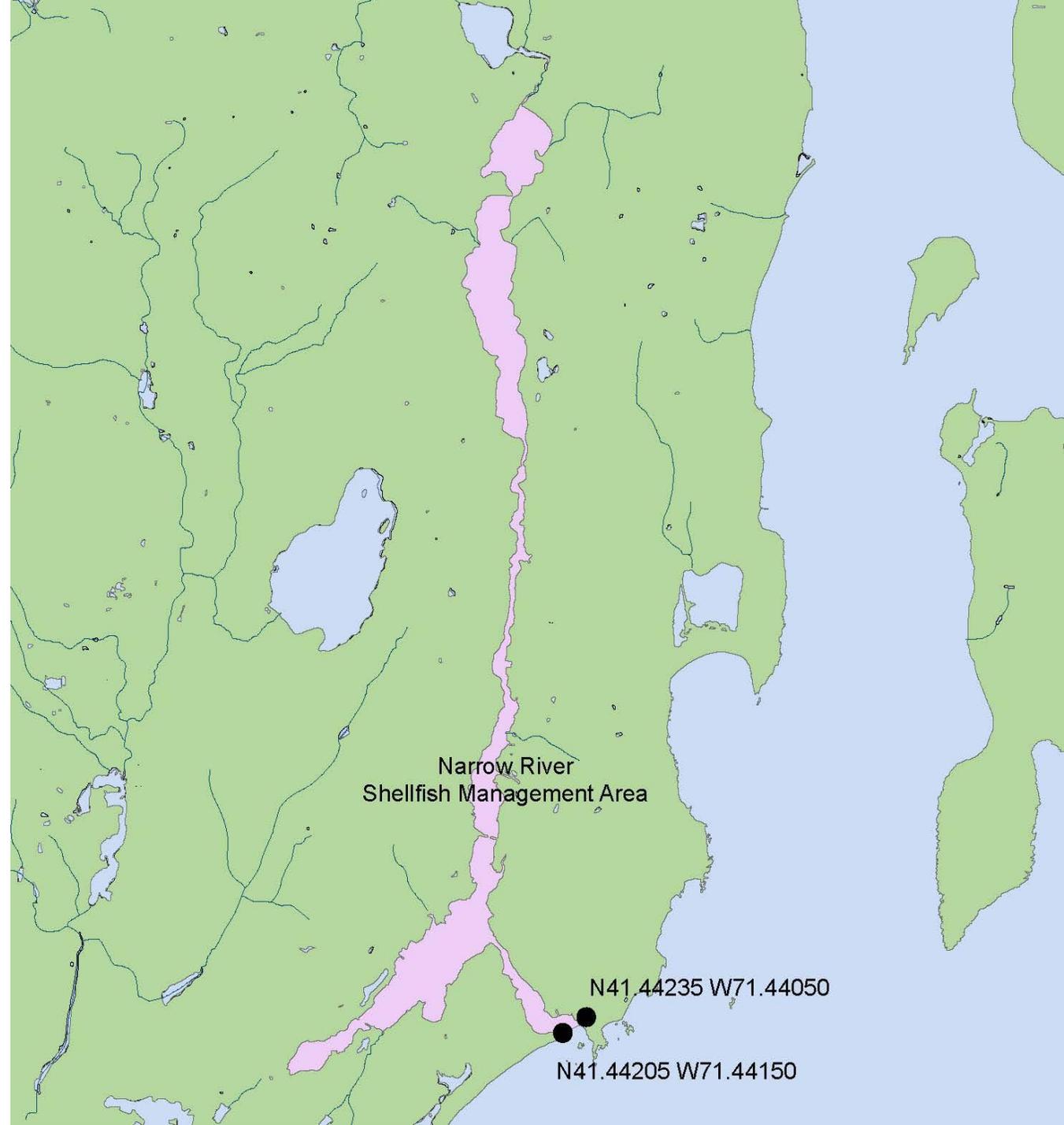
- RI DEM OWR Shellfishing Status:
  - Unassessed – Harvest Prohibited
- Purpose: Facilitate current and future oyster restoration work lead by RWU



# 1. Review of New Prospective Shellfish Management Areas\*

## Narrow River

- RI DEM OWR Shellfishing Status:
  - Unapproved – Harvest Prohibited
- Purpose: Facilitate future oyster restoration work, including substrate and brood stock enhancement



# 1. Review of New Prospective Shellfish Management Areas\*

## **Green Hill Pond**

- RI DEM OWR Shellfishing Status:
  - Unapproved – Harvest Prohibited
- Purpose: Facilitate future oyster restoration work, including substrate and brood stock enhancement



# 1. Review of New Prospective Shellfish Management Areas\*

## Little Narragansett Bay & Pawcatuck River

- RI DEM OWR Shellfishing Status:
  - Unapproved – Harvest Prohibited (Pawcatuck River & Little Narragansett Bay)
  - Approved (Little Narragansett Bay)
- Purpose: Facilitate potential future oyster restoration and habitat restoration work



## 2. Review of Prospective Shellfish Management Area Amendment\*

### Bristol Harbor

#### RI DEM OWR Shellfishing Status:

- Unapproved – Harvest Prohibited
- Seasonal Closure (GA3-2)
- Approved
- Purpose: Clarify the language defining the southern boundary line. There was confusion regarding where the line originated.

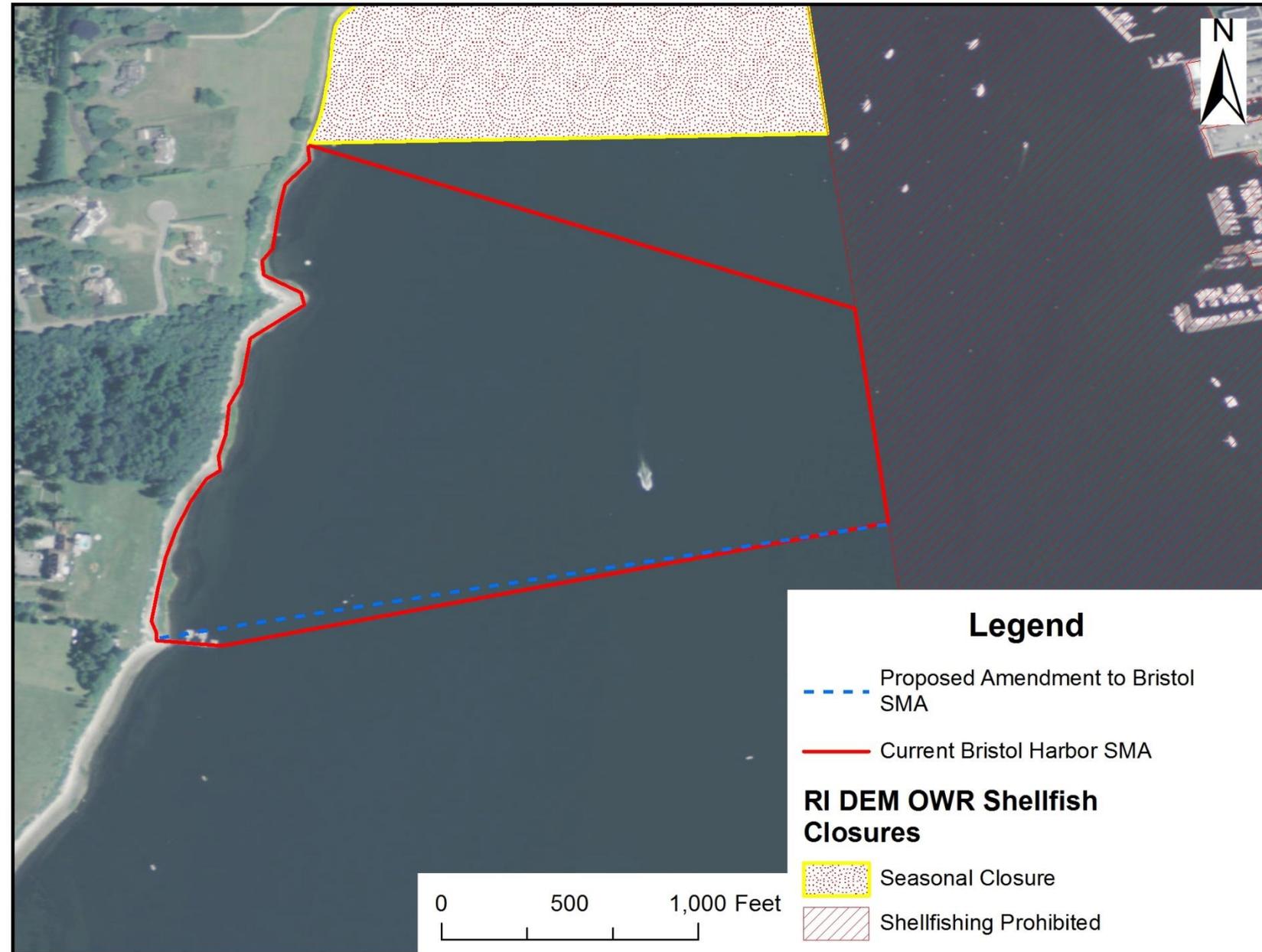


## 2. Review of Prospective Shellfish Management Area Amendment\*

### Bristol Harbor

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- Unapproved – Harvest Prohibited
- Seasonal Closure (GA3-2)
- Approved
- Purpose: Clarify the language defining the southern boundary line. There was confusion regarding where the line originated.



**Questions?**

# Why create a Shellfish Management Area?

## **SMA are designated for the purpose of:**

- enhancing the cultivation and growth of marine species,
  - managing the harvest of marine species,
  - facilitating the conduct by the department of experiments in planting, cultivating, propagating, managing, and
  - developing any and all kinds of marine life, and any other related purpose.
- 
- Upon the designation of a management area, [the Council] shall propose any rules and regulations as it shall deem necessary for the protection and management of the management area and the animal life and property in the management area, including the exclusion or restriction of persons from the area or the prohibition of certain activities within the areas or other restrictions as it may deem necessary.