

EXPERIMENTAL LEASE APPLICATION



1. APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant	George Stover
Contact Person	George Stover
Address	41 Flying Point Rd
City	Freeport
State, Zip	Maine, 04032
County	Cumberland
Telephone	207 319 4388
Email	Gms865@aol.com
Payment Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check (included) <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card

Note: The email address you list here will be the primary means by which we will contact you. Please provide an email address checked regularly. If you do not use email, please leave this blank.

2. PROPOSED LEASE SITE INFORMATION

Location of Proposed Lease Site	
Town	Chebeague Island
Waterbody	Casco Bay
General Description (e.g. south of B Island)	SW Seal ledge
Lease Information	
Total acreage (4-acre maximum) and lease term (3-year maximum) requested	4 acre - For three years
Type of culture (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bottom (no gear) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suspended (gear in the water and/or on the bottom) <input type="checkbox"/> Net Pen (finfish)
How many pending experimental lease applications (including this one) do you have pending?	<input type="checkbox"/> One (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Two (2) <i>Note: An applicant may have no more than two pending experimental leases at any time.</i>

Do you have a legal interest in any entity that has a pending experimental application?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If “Yes” provide the name of the applicant(s): _____
Is any portion of the proposed lease site above mean low water?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>Note: If you selected “Yes”, you need to complete the steps outlined in the section titled: “17. Landowner/Municipal Permission Requirements”.</i>

3. GROWING AREA DESIGNATION

Directions: Information for growing area designations can be found here:

<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/closures/index.html>

Growing Area Designation (e.g. “WL”):	WI
Growing Area Section (e.g. “A1”):	A

Note: If you are proposing to grow molluscan shellfish in waters classified as anything other than open/approved, you will need to contact the Bureau of Public Health to discuss you plans at the following email: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov

4. GENERAL LEASE INFORMATION

A. Please complete the table below and add additional rows as needed.

Name of species to be cultivated (include both common and scientific names):	Name and address of the source of seed stock or juveniles	Maximum number (or biomass) of organisms you anticipate on the site at any given time
1. Sugar Kelp (S. Latissima)	Atlantic SeaFarm 89 Industrial Park Road Saco, ME 04072	25000#
2. Skinny Kelp (Saccharina latissimi forma)	Atlantic SeaFarm 89 Industrial Park Road Saco, ME 04072	25000#
3. Dulse (P. palmata)	Atlantic SeaFarm 89 Industrial Park Road Saco, ME 04072	10000#
4. Winged Kelp Alaria esculenta	Atlantic SeaFarm 89 Industrial Park Road Saco, ME 04072	5000#
5.		

B. Do you intend to possess, transport, or sell whole or roe-on scallops? Yes No

If you answered “Yes” please contact the Bureau of Public Health to discuss your plans at the following email: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov

Note: If you are proposing to grow molluscan shellfish, this application also serves as your written operational plan as required in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Model Ordinance Chapter 2, and must be maintained in your files. If you wish to submit an operational plan separate from this application, please contact: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov

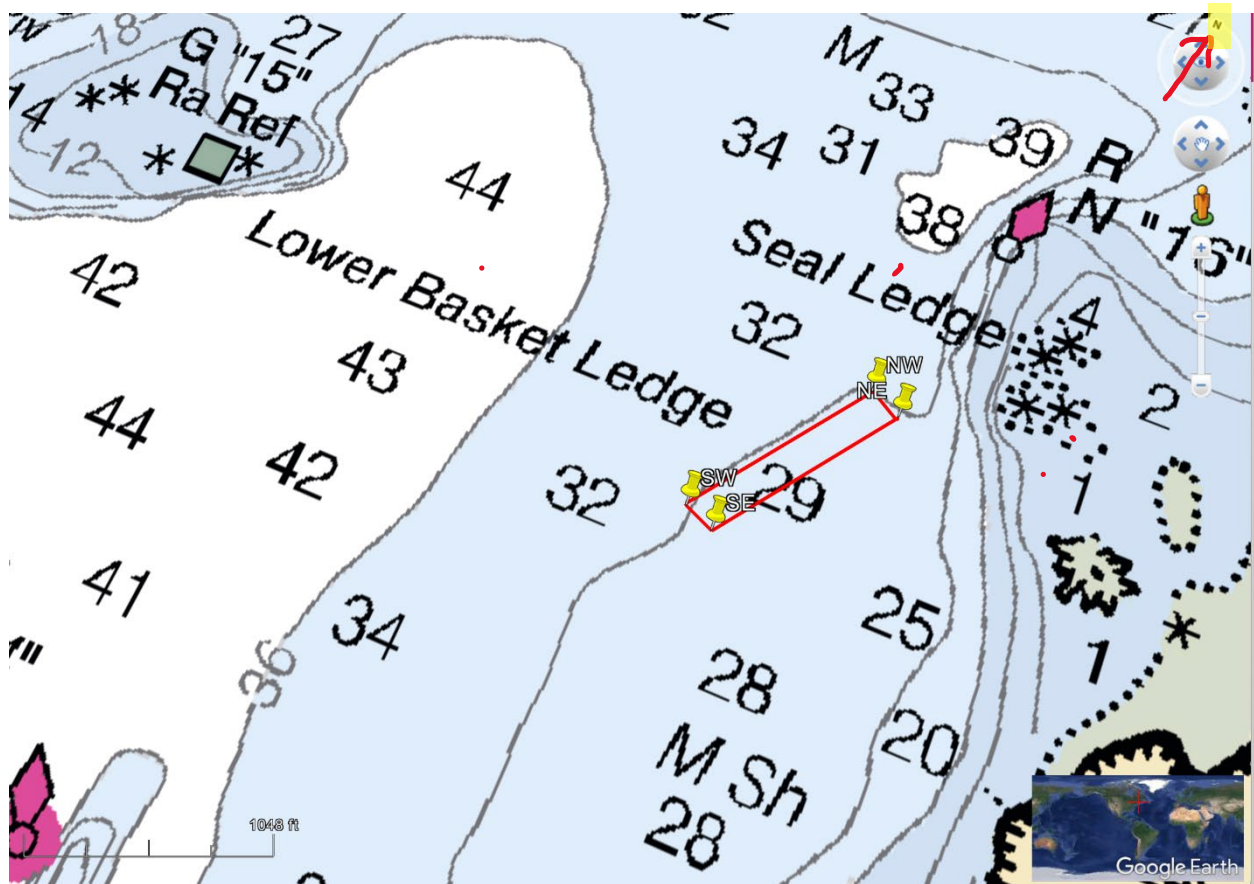
5. VICINITY MAP

Note: You may embed the maps within the document, or attach the maps to the end of your application. If you attach the maps, please label them according to the instructions provided below. If you attach the map, please label it: ‘Vicinity Map’.

Directions: Using a NOAA Chart or USGS topographic map, show the area within a minimum of one-half mile of the proposed lease site.

The map needs to display the following:

- The waters, shore lands, and lines of mean high and mean low water within the general area of the lease
- An arrow indicating true north
- A scalebar
- The approximate lease boundaries



6. BOUNDARY DRAWING

Note: If you attach a drawing, please label it ‘Boundary Drawing’.

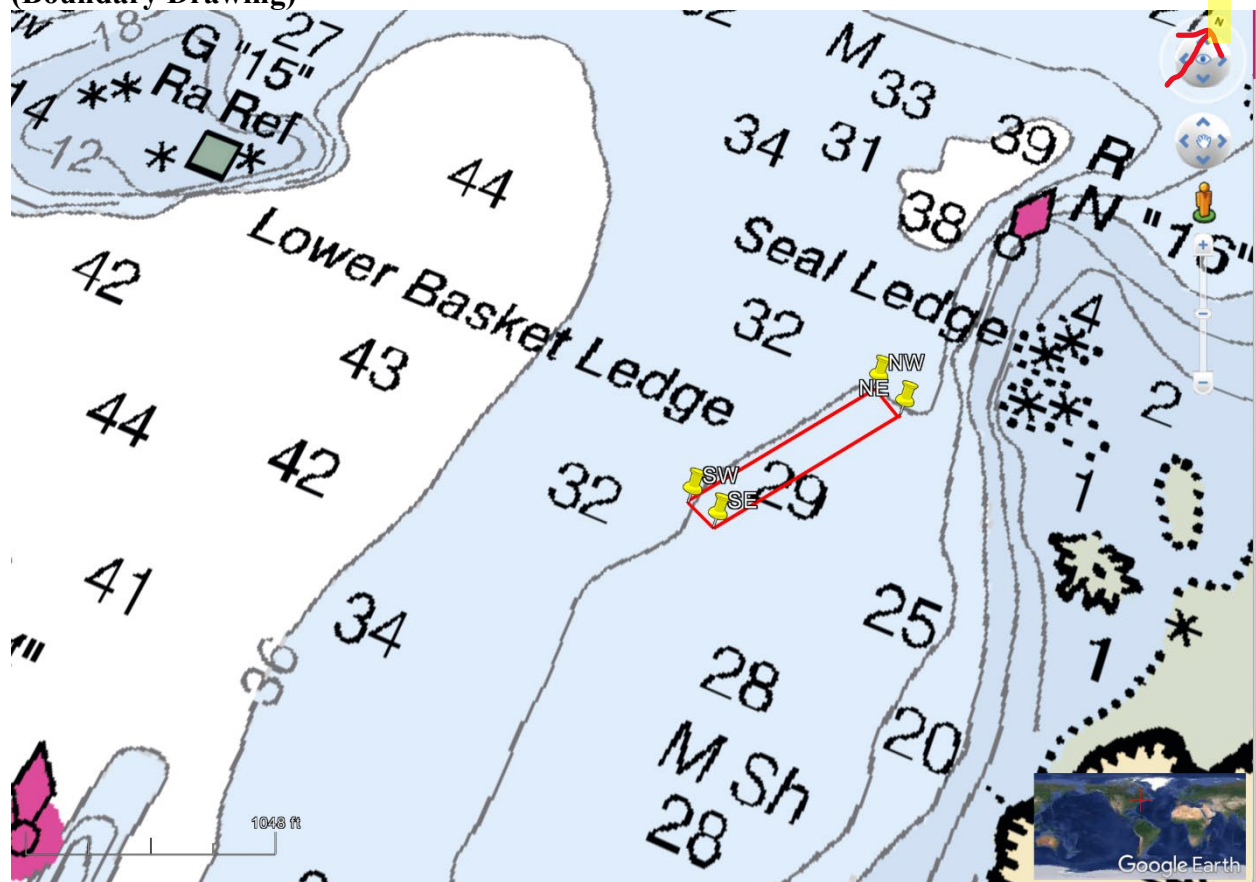
Directions: Depict the boundaries of the proposed lease site. Provide a drawing with all corners, directions, and distances labeled. Provide coordinates for each corner as follows:

- Coordinate Description**
 Provide geographic coordinates for each corner of the lease site in latitude and longitude in decimal degrees (e.g., 43.123456 N, -69.123456 W). Identify the datum from the map, chart, or GPS unit used to develop these coordinates. The datum will be shown on the map or chart you are using. The Coordinate Description may be provided separately from the Boundary Drawing.

SE	NE	SW	NW
43.72830833	43.73058889	43.72848056	43.73078333
70.14537500	70.14309167	70.14593611	70.14367500

SW to NW 1032' approx. - NE to NW 168' - SE to NE 1032' - SE to SW 168' - NE to NW 168'

(Boundary Drawing)



7. RESEARCH PROGRAM AND OPERATIONS

Directions: If you are cultivating more than one species, you will need to provide the below information for each species. Please attach a separate page if needed.

A. Type of study (check one): Scientific Research Commercial Research

Please note:

a) Product grown on experimental leases for scientific research cannot be sold. Results of scientific research are not kept confidential.

b) Experimental leases for commercial research are not renewable. Results of commercial research are kept confidential.

B. What is the purpose of the study? If scientific, please include a detailed study design.

To determine the economic feasibility of growing kelp in the bay opposed to the river mouth.

C. Describe the general culture process for each species proposed.

Kelp will be seeded onto a 1,000ft long line in early November, set and maintained seven feet below the surface. The kelp will be checked monthly and adjusted to maintain the seven foot depth. In May the long lines will be harvested.

D. What months will the proposed activities (i.e. seeding, tending, and harvesting) occur?

Seeding will take place in early November, with harvest as weather allows in May.

E. How often will you be at the site during seeding and harvesting periods?

Seeding will require four day's maximum in early November. Harvest starts in May and will not exceed one week. We plan on arriving after 8am and harvesting until dark. The harvest process depending on the weather but will not exceed one week total.

F. How frequently will you visit/tend the site for routine maintenance (i.e. flipping cages, etc.)?

Kelp Farms require very little tending during the winter months. Typically, a couple hours a month to inspect and adjust buoys depth as the kelp grows.

G. Describe the harvesting techniques you will use. If you plan on using a drag, please provide the dimensions.

Kelp will be harvested during the month of May. We will use my 35' RP boat to haul up the kelp long lines. There will a maximum of four crew members to harvest as the line is hauled in cut into 1,000 bags, the boat will hold 10,000# to be delivered in Portland Maine. The harvested lines will be stored in 55-gallon barrels on shore at my residence after the harvest. The summer months will be no activity at the purposed lease site.

H. Describe any overwintering or "off season" plans for the site. For example, will you remove gear from the site and/or deploy gear in different areas within the proposed site? Please include where gear or product will be located if moved from the site.

The summer months will be off season, all ropes removed to be cleaned and stored at my house.

I. What type of machinery (e.g. generator, drag, grading equipment, etc.) will you be using on the site? When and how often will the machinery be used?

The boat will be the primary equipment on site. The boat is equipped with wet exhaust and muffler to greatly reduce noise. The winch is hydraulic powered from the boat's primary engine. The boat will be used during harvest only on week per year. Upon approval I intend to purch a smaller 21' tender outboard to visit the site during the winter moths.

J. Please provide details on any predator control techniques you plan to employ.

N/A

K. Suspended culture gear can attract birds that roost on the gear and defecate, potentially creating a pollution source impacting shellfish held within the gear. In order to comply with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) Model Ordinance (MO), DMR is requiring that applications for the suspended culture of shellfish include a description of mitigation or deterrent measures to minimize the potential pollution impacts of birds at the proposed site. If appropriate, include sketches or photos that clearly depict those measures put into practice.

Examples may include:

- Submerging suspended gear and associated product at a depth sufficient to deter roosting for two weeks before harvest
- Attaching physical deterrents (i.e. zip ties) to gear
- The site is proposed for the culture of seed only
- The site is proposed for the culture of adductor-only scallops (i.e. no other shellfish species would be grown on the site)
- Proposed gear would always be suspended below the surface of the water at a depth sufficient to deter roosting (i.e. as is common for scallop lantern nets)

I do not anticipate kelp attracting Birds, kelp will be suspended six feet below the surface.

8. EXISTING USES

Directions: Describe the existing uses of the proposed area. Please include the amount of activity, the time of year the activity occurs, frequency, and proximity to the lease site.

A. Describe the existing uses of the proposed area in questions A.1 through A.5 below. Please include the a) type b) time of year c) frequency, and d) proximity to the lease site for each existing use.
1. Commercial Fishing
Very little activity, some lobster gear in the summer months, but I will be well clear of the area before they set gear, and I will set lines after any gear has been removed. Lobster gear is 500' between the proposed lease and shore, very little lobster gear and it is in the eel grass zone closer to shore. Lease is positioned in the direction that the lobster gear is normally set to again minimize and conflict.
2. Recreational Fishing
None observed within the purposed lease area. The lease area will be open to recreational fishing during the summer fishing season. Fishermen tend to be out in the channel some 1,000' away,
3. Boating Activities (please also include the distance to any navigable channel(s) from your proposed site at low water)
This site was selected to not interfere with traffic as I will be east and inside of the rhump line. The typical rhumb line, used to avoid ledges when traveling up the bay from little island channel towards seal ledge sets well west. The lease is located 1,500' inside of the channel.
4. Ingress and egress (i.e. coming and going) of shorefront property owners within 1,000 feet of the proposal (e.g. docks, moorings, landing boats on shore, etc.)
Riparian boaters in this area are limited to local traffic, the purposed lease is beyond 1,000'. The area will be open to all boaters during the summer boating season with little to no interference.
5. Other uses (kayaking, swimming, etc.)
I have not witnessed any swimmers or kayakers near the purpose lease site, but in sure they exist during the summer months.
B. Are there private docks, moorings, or other access points within 1,000 feet of the proposed lease? If yes, please include approximate distance from proposed lease.
The lease is located in excess of 1,000 from the shore.

C. Are there public beaches, parks, or docking facilities within 1,000 feet of the proposed lease site. If yes, please describe and include approximate distances from proposed lease.

The proposed lease is in excess of 1,000' from shore, there are no beaches, parks or docking facilities owned by state, federal or municipal governments within 1,000' of the proposed lease site.

D. Are there any Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) licenses or aquaculture leases within 1,000 feet of your proposed lease site? If yes, please list their acronyms below.

Current and pending aquaculture leases and active LPA licenses may be found here: <https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/leases/index.html>

None within 1,000'

9. CURRENT OPERATIONS

Directions: If a question does not pertain to your proposed operations, please write “not applicable” or “N/A.”

A. Describe your existing aquaculture operations, including the acronyms of all active leases and/or licenses.

N/A - none

B. What are your plans for any existing leases and/or Limited Purposed Aquaculture (LPA) licenses if the lease is granted? Will any existing leases and/or Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) licenses be relinquished if the lease is granted? If so, please indicate which ones.

N/A

10. EXCLUSIVE USE

If your lease is granted, what activities would you request be excluded from occurring within the boundaries of the lease site? In your answer please address applicable commercial and recreational fishing, boating activities, and other activities you listed in the 'Existing Uses' section of this application.

I will NOT be requesting exclusive use.

11. ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERIZATION

Directions: Using your knowledge of the area, describe the environment of the proposed lease site. Be sure to include units of measurement in your answers (i.e. feet, cm/s).

A. What are the approximate depths at mean low water?

22' to 33'

B. What are the approximate depths at mean high water?

32' to 34'

C. Provide the approximate current speed and direction during the ebb and flow.

Approximately 1.5 to 2 knots flowing SE to NW through the lease sits

D. The following questions (D.1 through D.6) may be answered in writing or by submitting a video. If you plan to submit a video, please contact the Department prior to video collection.

1. What are the bottom characteristics (mud, sand, gravel, rock, ledge or some mix, etc.)?

The bottom conditions are soft mud throughout the lease site

2. Describe the bottom topography (flat, steep rough, etc.).

Flat soft mud.

3. Describe marine organisms by species or common names. Based on your personal observations or other sources of information, are these species abundant, common, or rare?

The area has high levels of green crab, some lobster and red crab, seal have been observed, with loons and sea gulls and ducks in the fall. Nothing out of the ordinary.

4. Are there shellfish beds or fish migration routes in the surrounding area? If so, please describe.

N/A

5. Describe the presence and extent of submerged aquatic vegetation, i.e. eelgrass, within the proposed lease area. Please include the date of this observation along with the method of observation. If submerged aquatic vegetation is observed, please also describe the abundance below and sketch the limits of the beds in the vicinity map.

No eel grass in the lease area

6. Describe the general shoreline and upland characteristics (rocky shoreline, forested, residential, etc.)

The purposed lease site will sit south of Division point off Chebeague island in Casco Bay. The shoreline inside the purposed lease site is residential developed housing, a dock, and a few moorings.

E. Is your proposed lease located within a Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife designated Essential Habitat?
 Yes No

Note: The location of Essential Habitats in the State of Maine, along with information on how projects within these areas are reviewed, can be found here: <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/fish-wildlife/wildlife/endangered-threatened-species/essential-wildlife-habitat/index.html>

If a project is located within an Essential Habitat, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the MDIFW Environmental Review Coordinator (John.Perry@maine.gov, phone: 207-287-5254) prior to application submission.

F. Will your operations discharge anything into the water such as feed (pellets, kelp, etc.) or chemical additives (therapeutants, chemical treatments, etc.)?

Yes No

Note: If you answered yes, you must submit a video of the bottom using a method prescribed by the Department. **The video must be filmed between April 1 and November 15.** If a discharge is proposed you will also need to obtain a Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) discharge permit. For information on this permit please contact DEP’s Wastewater Licensing Program (Gregg.wood@maine.gov, 207-287-7693). Further sampling may be required by DMR, or DEP, depending on the characteristics of the site or the proposed activities.

12. STRUCTURES *(if applicable)*

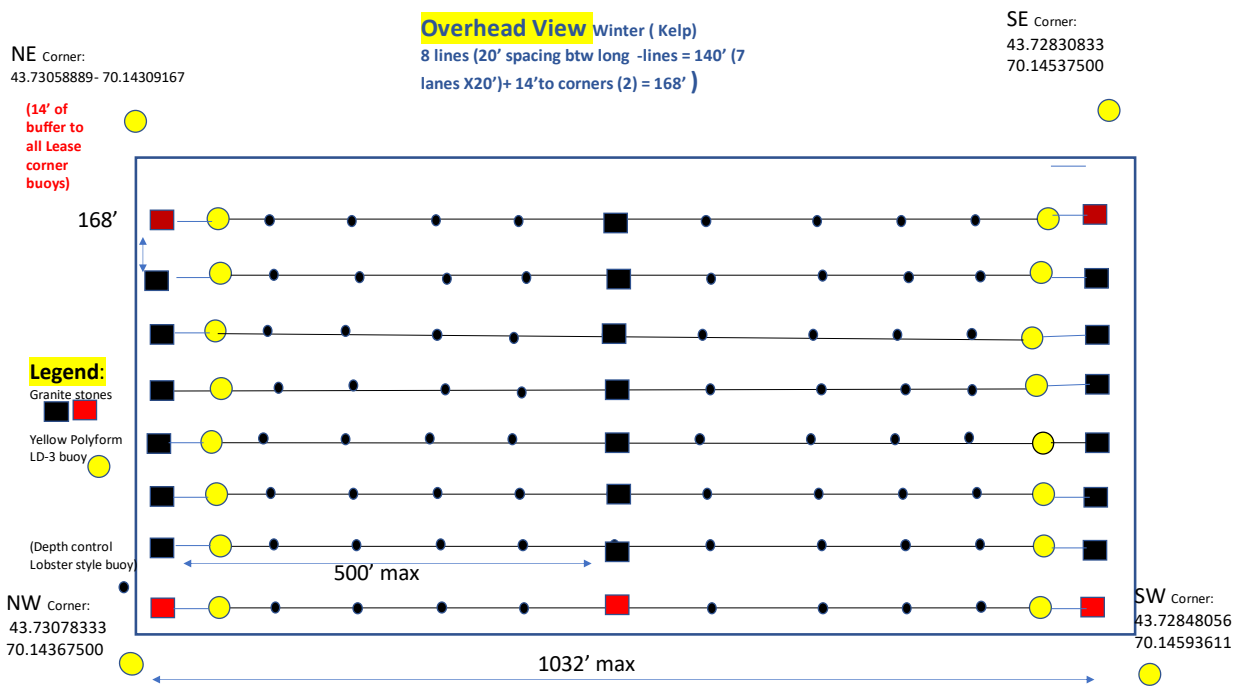
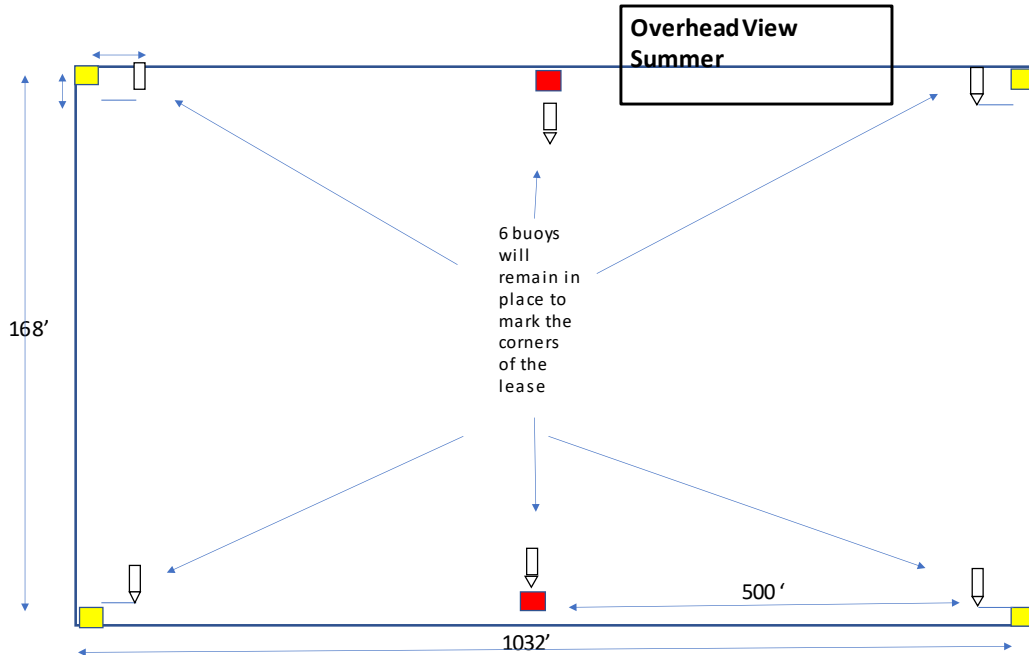
If your operations require the use of cages, nets, ropes, trays, or any object (structure) other than the organism to be grown directly on the bottom or buoys to mark the corners of the lease site, you must submit an **Overhead View** and **Cross-Section View** of your gear plans. It is important to note that, unlike Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) Licenses, experimental and standard leases require that all gear, including moorings, must be located within the proposed lease boundaries.

Note: You may embed the gear plans, or attach them to the end of your application. If you attach the plans, please label them according to the instructions provided below.

A) Overhead View (please label this “Overhead View”):

Directions: All dimensions need to be labeled with the appropriate units (i.e. 10ft, 10in)

- Show maximum layout of gear including moorings.
- Show dimensions of entire gear layout
- Show approximate spacing between gear.
- Show lease boundaries and the location of proposed markers on all drawings.



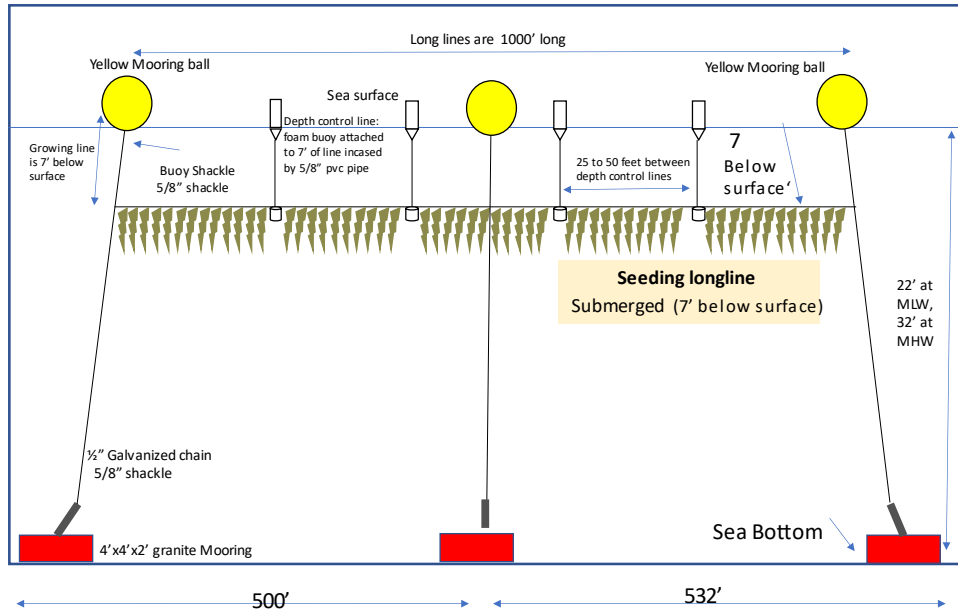
B) Cross-Section View (please label this “Cross Section View”):

Directions: The cross-section view must show the following:

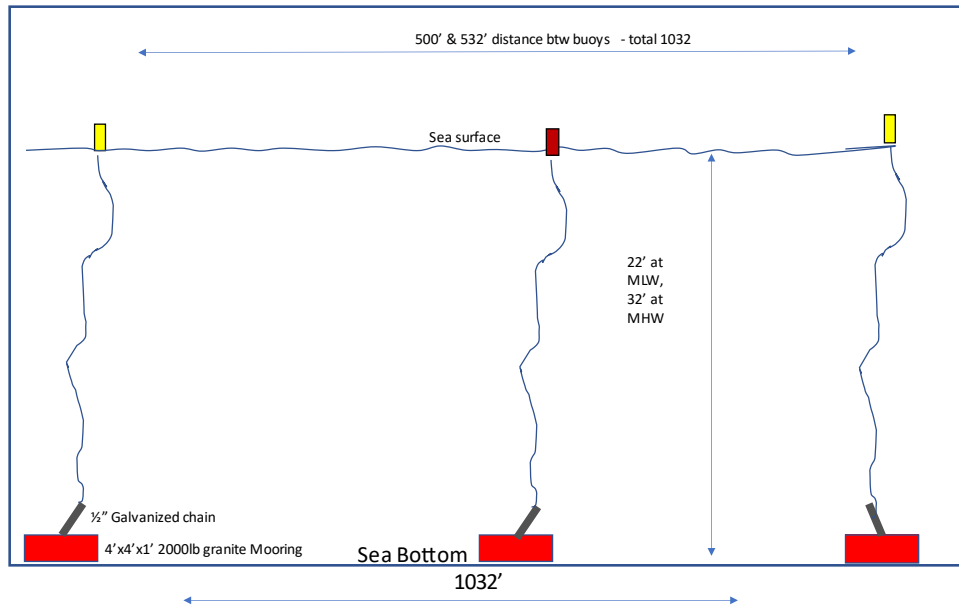
- The sea bottom
- Profile of gear in cross-section as it will be deployed
- Label gear with dimensions and materials
- Show mooring gear with mooring type, scope, hardware, and line type and size
- Water depth at mean high and mean low water

Note: Please include an additional Cross Section View, depicting the elements listed above, if there will be seasonal changes to gear layout (i.e. over wintering).

Cross Section View: Winter



Cross Section View Summer (6 total only)



C) Gear Description

Directions: List and describe each individual gear type that you will use in the table below.

Specific Gear Type (<i>e.g. soft mesh bag</i>)	Dimensions (<i>e.g. 16"x20"x2"</i>)	Time of year gear will be deployed (<i>e.g. Spring, Winter, etc.</i>)	Maximum amount of this gear type that will be deployed on the site (<i>i.e. 200 cages, 100 lantern nets, etc.</i>)	Species that will be grown using this gear type
2000# cement moorings	5 x 4 x 3'	Jan 1 – Dec 31	24	Kelp
Chain	1/2"	Jan 1 – Dec 31	35' x 24 moorings	Kelp
Braded long line	11/32LD x 1,000'	Oct 20 – May 30	8 Long lines @ 1,000'	Kelp
LD-3 yellow buoys	29" x 14"	Jan 1 – Dec 31	16	Kelp
LD-2	24" x 14,5"	Oct 20 – May 30	8	Kelp
Lobster buoys	5 x 12"	Seasonally, winter	8 long line – 10/line max	Kelp

D) Gear Drawing (please label this “Gear Drawing”).

Directions: Include a drawing of an individual piece of gear for each of the gear type(s) you plan to use. The drawing(s) needs to depict the length, width, and height of each gear type with appropriate units referenced (i.e., 10in, 10ft, etc.).

- Gear Drawing:**
- 2000lb mooring block with 1 ¼" staple
 - ½" mooring chain x 35'
 - 5/8" mooring shackles x 5"
 - Yellow polyform buoys:
 - 11/32" x 1000' pot warp sinking long line
 - Hard Buoy 12" x 7" (red, yellow and white only)



13. MARKING

Will you be able to mark your site in accordance with DMR regulations, Chapter 2.80? In part, this requires marker buoys which clearly display the lease ID and the words SEA FARM to be located at each corner of the lease. Effective January 1, 2023, marker buoys must be yellow and host reflective material.

Yes No

If you answered no, explain why and suggest alternate markings.

Note: If a lease is granted, you will also be required to mark the site in accordance with appropriate US Coast Guard Regulations. If you have questions about US Coast Guard regulations contact: 1st Coast Guard District, Aids to Navigation Office.

14. RIPARIAN LANDOWNERS AND SITE ACCESS

- A.** If your lease is within 1,000ft of shorefront land (**which extends to mean low water or 1,650 ft. from shore, whichever is less, according to NOAA charts**), the following supporting documents are required:
1. A labeled copy of a tax map(s) depicting the location of the proposed lease site and including the following elements:
 - Label the map “Tax Map: Town of (name of town).”

- Legible scale
 - Tax lot numbers clearly displayed
 - The boundaries of the proposed lease
2. Please use the Riparian Landowner List (included on the next page) to list the name and address of every shorefront landowner within 1,000ft of the proposed lease site. Have the tax collector or clerk of the municipality certify the list. Refer to the riparian determination guidance document to ensure all riparian landowners are included:
<https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture/forms/documents/RiparianDetermination.pdf>

Note: When the application and riparian list are both ready to be submitted, you may choose to email a copy of the riparian list and proposed lease coordinates to DMRAquaculture@maine.gov for staff to verify that all required parcels are included on the list *before* having it certified by the municipality. DMR will not verify a riparian list multiple times, so please ensure there will be no additional changes to the application before emailing the riparian list for verification.

3.If any portion of the site is intertidal you need to complete the steps outlined in “17. Landowner/Municipal Permission Requirements”.

B. Will your access to the lease area be across riparian land?

Yes No

Note: If you selected “Yes”, you will need to complete the landowner permission requirements included in “17. Landowner/Municipal Permission Requirements” of this application.

C. How will you access the proposed site?

The lease site will be entered from water by boat. I have parking and moorings at Maderline point Cousins island Yarmouth, and the Yarmouth town landing.

RIPARIAN LANDOWNER LIST

*THIS LIST MUST BE **CERTIFIED** BY THE TOWN CLERK*

On this list, please include the map number, lot number, and the current owners’ names and mailing addresses for all shorefront parcels within 1,000 feet of the lease site. It is the applicant’s responsibility to assemble the information for the Town Clerk to certify. The Town Clerk *only* certifies that the information is correct according to the Town’s records. Once you have completed the form, ask the Town Clerk to

complete the certification section below. If riparian parcels are located within more than one municipality, provide a separate, tax map and certified riparian list for each municipality.

TOWN OF: N/A **purposed lease greater than 1,000 from low water mark**

MAP #	LOT #	Landowner name(s) and address(es)

Please use additional sheets if necessary and attach hereto.

CERTIFICATION

I, _____, Town Clerk for the Town of _____ certify that the names and addresses of the property owners listed above, as well as the map and lot numbers, are those listed in the records of this municipality and are current as of this date.

SIGNED: _____ **DATE:** _____

15. ESCROW ACCOUNT OR PERFORMANCE BOND

Check the category that describes your operation:

Check Here	Lease Category	Amount of Required Escrow or Performance Bond
<input type="checkbox"/>	No gear/structure, no discharge	None

<input type="checkbox"/>	No gear/structure, discharge	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	≤ 400 square feet of gear/structure, no discharge	\$1,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	>400 square feet of gear/structure, no discharge	\$5,000.00*
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gear/Structure, discharge	\$25,000.00

*DMR may increase the bond/escrow requirements for leases with more than 2,000 feet of structure.

I, (*printed name of applicant*) George Stover have read DMR Aquaculture Regulations 2.64(12)(B)) and if this proposed lease is granted by DMR I will either open an escrow account or obtain a performance bond, depending on the category of lease.



July 30 2023

Applicant Signature

Date

Note: Add title if signing on behalf of a corporate applicant.

ADDITIONAL APPLICANTS: Each applicant must sign this section indicating that they will open an escrow account or obtain a performance bond. Use the space below for additional persons listed on the application. You may attach additional pages, if necessary.

I, (*printed name of applicant*) _____ have read DMR Aquaculture Regulations 2.64(10)(D) and if this proposed lease is granted by DMR I will either open an escrow account or obtain a performance bond, depending on the category of lease.

Applicant Signature

Date

Note: Add title if signing on behalf of a corporate applicant.

16. APPLICANT SIGNATURE PAGE

I hereby state that the information included in this application is true and correct. I have also read and understand the requirements of the Department's rules governing aquaculture and the application instructions pertaining to the experimental lease process.

Printed name: George Stover

Title (if corporate applicant): _____

Signature:  _____ Date: July 30 2023

18 U.S.C. Section 1001 provides that: Whoever, in any manner within the jurisdiction of any department or agency of the United States knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up any trick, scheme, or disguises a material fact or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or entry, shall be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years or both.

Note:

- All applicants must sign and date this page. Please use the space below, if additional signatures are required.
- Corporate applicants, please be sure to include the title (i.e. President, Treasurer, etc.) of the individual(s) signing on the company's behalf.

17. LANDOWNER/MUNCIPAL PERMISSION REQUIREMENTS *(if applicable)*

PART I: The use of private property to access your site.

Pursuant to 2.64(C)(6) if you are using private property to access the proposed lease site, you need to submit written permission from the property owner with your application. It is your responsibility to obtain written permission. Please note that the Department does not provide forms for landowner or municipal permission. **If any portion of your site is also intertidal you will need to complete the steps outlined in Part II, below.**

PART II: If any portion of the site is intertidal you need to complete the following steps:

Step I: Obtain written permission from all intertidal landowners.

Pursuant to 2.64(C)(6) the Department requires *written permission of every owner of intertidal land in, on, or over which the experimental activity will occur*. It is your responsibility to obtain written permission and include it with your application materials. Please note that the Department does not provide forms for landowner permission.

Step II: Determine if the municipality where your site is located has a shellfish conservation program.

Pursuant to 12 MRSA §6072(3) *In any municipality with a shellfish conservation program under section 6671, the Commissioner may not lease areas in the intertidal zone within the municipality without the consent of the municipal officers.*

If the municipality where the proposed lease site is located has a shellfish conservation program, it is your responsibility to obtain consent for the proposed lease site from the municipal officers (i.e., the selectmen or councilors of the town, or the mayor and aldermen or councilors of a city.) Consent means a majority vote of the municipal officers as recorded in a public meeting.

It is your responsibility to contact the municipality and determine if they have a shellfish conservation program. Best practices would include discussing your plans with shellfish committee members, but only the consent of municipal officers is required.

1. Does the municipality, where the proposed site is located, have a shellfish conservation program? Yes No

If you answered yes, please attach documentation from a public meeting demonstrating that a majority of municipal officers have consented to your proposal.

