

# SHELLFISH MANAGEMENT PLAN

## FOR

### THE TOWN OF WISCASSET

The Town of Wiscasset submits the following information as required by DMR Regulations Chapter 7.20, which states that the Shellfish Management Plan shall consist of:

- A. A written statement of goals and objectives the municipality plans to achieve as a result of its conservation program.
- B. A description of the various conservation measures the municipality intends to employ to reach those goals.

#### STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The Town of Wiscasset's shellfish management program recognizes the clam flats of the Town to be a valuable resource to its residents. It is the goal of the Town's Shellfish Management plan to maximize individual commercial and recreational harvest by limiting the number of licenses, provide access to flats, and to conduct conservation measures to enhance clam growth.

Additionally, we will conduct seasonal closures as necessary to allow undisturbed growth in certain flats.

#### DESCRIPTION OF CONSERVATION MEASURES:

We will survey our flats on an annual basis to maintain current information on shellfish resource abundance. This information will provide input into decisions to conduct seasonal closures. This data will also help determine the number of licenses issued in a given year. The survey will be conducted by the Shellfish Committee Chairman.

To provide a way for license holders to get conservation time and to enhance clam growth, an annual seeding/transport effort shall be conducted. The flats of Young's Point contain many juvenile clams that do not grow to maturity. We intend to remove clams from Young's Point and transport them to other flats. The most convenient flat to receive these clams is Bailly Cove. It is close by and provides acres of flats to receive seed. Clams grow well after being located in Bailly Cove.

The license holders will also conduct shoreline cleanup on the six major flats in town.

We will work with DMR to open flats where water quality is above satisfactory levels.