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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES  
21 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0021

PATRICK C. KELIHER  
COMMISSIONER

**NOTICE OF EXPERIMENTAL AQUACULTURE LEASE APPLICATION  
AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

**TO:** Riparian (shorefront) landowners within 1,000 ft. of proposed aquaculture lease site  
Town of Chebeague Island  
General and Specific Mailing Lists for lease application #2016-01-E

**FROM:** Hannah Dean, Aquaculture Hearing Officer 

**DATE:** March 3, 2016

**APPLICATION:** Chebeague Island Oyster Company, LLC has applied to the Department of Marine Resources for a limited-purpose (experimental) aquaculture lease to grow American/Eastern oysters on a 0.75-acre site located off the northwest corner of Little Chebeague Island, Casco Bay, Chebeague Island using suspended culture techniques. The application, Docket # 2016-01-, is posted under "Pending Aquaculture Lease Applications" on the Department's website, [www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture](http://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture).

To request a paper copy of the application, please call Cindy Burke at (207) 624-6567 or email [cindy.l.burke@maine.gov](mailto:cindy.l.burke@maine.gov). The aquaculture page of the DMR website also has information on how the public can participate in the aquaculture leasing process.

**COMMENT PERIOD:** The Department of Marine Resources announces a **30-day public comment period** during which interested persons may submit written comments or request a public hearing on the application. A hearing is optional for experimental lease applications unless the Department receives five or more written requests from interested persons during the 30-day comment period. A copy of the public notice advertising the comment period is attached. The legal authority for this notice is Title 12, MRSA §6072-A (5) and DMR Rules Chapter 2.64 (4) (C).

**CONTACT THE APPLICANT:** Robert Earnest of Chebeague Island Oyster Company, LLC has asked us to encourage you to contact him directly to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about this proposed lease. His contact information is:

Chebeague Island Oyster Company, LLC  
Attention: Robert Earnest  
12 Rose Point Road  
Chebeague Island, ME 04017  
E-mail: [bob963@me.com](mailto:bob963@me.com) Telephone: (207) 807-7253

**DMR REVIEW:** In the course of our review, Department biologists will visit and assess the site in light of the legal requirements for aquaculture leases. Other state and federal agencies will also review the application, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Cindy Burke, Paralegal Assistant, (207) 624-6567, [cindy.l.burke@maine.gov](mailto:cindy.l.burke@maine.gov), or Hannah Dean (207) 624-6573, [hannah.dean@maine.gov](mailto:hannah.dean@maine.gov).

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