

Public Notice
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
Application for Shellfish Aquaculture Lease – Maryland Seafood Cooperative, Inc. #563,
Dorchester County

The Secretary of Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), pursuant to Natural Resources Article, §4-11A-09(g), Annotated Code of Maryland, is giving notice of an application for a shellfish aquaculture submerged land lease by Maryland Seafood Cooperative, Inc. in the Choptank River, Dorchester County, Maryland, located within the Lower Choptank Oyster Sanctuary. The proposed site lies approximately 3,500' south southeast of channel marker "2" at the mouth of LeCompte Bay. The area contains 27.1 acres more or less, and is enclosed by a line beginning at corner 1, at or near Lat. 38° 36' 38.9" N., Long. 76° 8' 42.2" W., then running 274° 4' (True), approximately 261 meters to corner 2, at or near Lat. 38° 36' 39.5" N., Long. 76° 8' 53" W., then running 321° 35' (True), approximately 399 meters to corner 3, at or near Lat. 38° 36' 49.5" N., Long. 76° 9' 3.5" W., then running 28° 20' (True), approximately 235 meters to corner 4, at or near Lat. 38° 36' 56.2" N., Long. 76° 8' 58.9" W., then running 143° 58' (True), approximately 669 meters to the point of beginning.

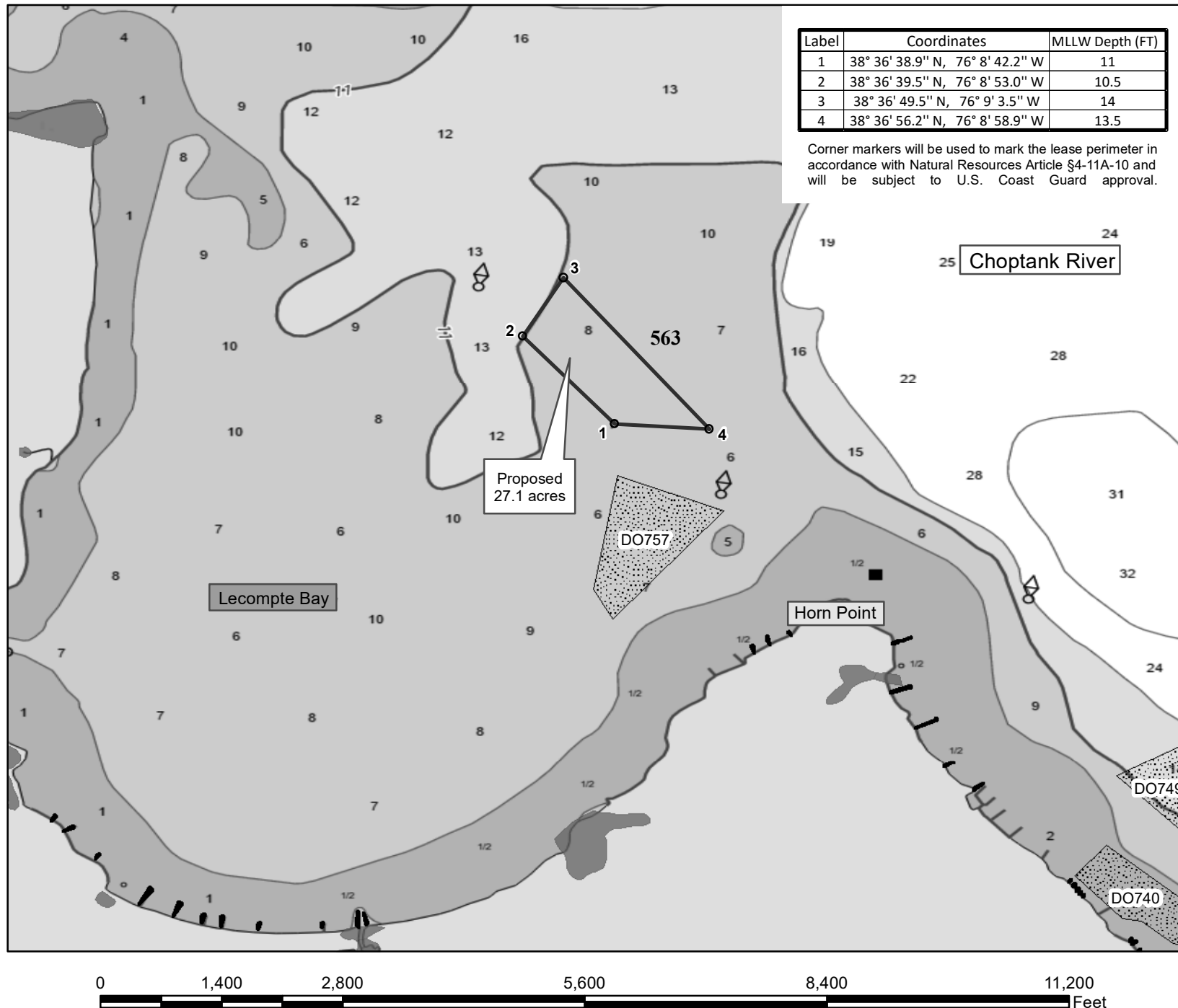
The applicant proposes to deposit oyster shell and spat-on-shell as needed within the given area to a maximum depth of three inches for the purpose of culturing Eastern Oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*), and to harvest using methods approved by the Department. Lease corners will be marked in accordance with Code of Maryland Regulations. A map of the proposed lease is available on the Fishing and Boating Services Public Notice web page, dnr.maryland.gov/Fisheries/Pages/Pub_Notices.aspx

The Department will hold a public informational meeting upon written request from a member of the public. In addition, any person who has a specific right, duty, privilege, or interest that is different from that held by the general public and may be adversely affected by the proposed lease may file a Petition of Protest with the Department. Petitions that meet the requirements of Natural Resources Article §4-11A-09(g) shall be forwarded to the Office of Administrative Hearings for adjudication. Comments, written requests for a public informational meeting, and/or Petitions of Protest must be received by the Department of Natural Resources Aquaculture and Industry Enhancement Division 580 Taylor Avenue E-4 Annapolis, MD 21401 by April 11, 2025. For questions about the project or the public notice, please contact the DNR Aquaculture and Industry Enhancement Division at aquaculturepubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov or 410-260-8252.

Josh Kurtz, Secretary
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Proposed Shellfish Submerged Land Lease NAV Chart Map

Maryland Seafood Cooperative, Inc. #563 - Lecompte Bay, Dorchester County, Maryland



Lease Area shown over
NOAA Raster
Navigational Charts.

- Proposed Lease
- Land-Based Sanctuaries and Refuges (state, federal, private, etc)
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (VIMS)
- Structures (Piers, Marinas, etc)
- Wetlands of Special State Concern (MD-DNR)
- Active Shellfish Lease
- Proposed Shellfish Lease
- Tidal Wetlands (NWI Wetlands) (excludes E1 type)



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Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Center for Geospatial Products and Services
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DNR.MARYLAND.GOV
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