

**Public Notice**  
**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**  
**Fishing and Boating Services**  
**Application for Shellfish Aquaculture Lease Gear Modification –**  
**Jess R. Baunhofer & Mairen Baunhofer #580, Worcester 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 a proposed gear modification application for an existing shellfish aquaculture water column lease, WO 568, held by Jess R. Baunhofer and Mairen Baunhofer, in Parker Bay (Chincoteague Bay), Worcester County, Maryland. The existing 1.99-acre lease is located approximately 1,300 feet south of George Island Landing and just off the south end of Parkers Bay Road. The area is enclosed by a line beginning at corner 1, at or near Lat. 38° 2' 11.0" N., Long. 75° 21' 40.6" W., then running 287° 15' (True), approximately 102 meters to corner 2, at or near Lat. 38° 2' 12.0" N., Long. 75° 21' 44.6" W., then running 28° 13' (True), approximately 87 meters to corner 3, at or near Lat. 38° 2' 14.5" N., Long. 75° 21' 42.9" W., then running 110° 9' (True), approximately 88 meters to corner 4, at or near Lat. 38° 2' 13.5" N., Long. 75° 21' 39.5" W., then running 199° 21' (True), approximately 81 meters to the point of beginning.

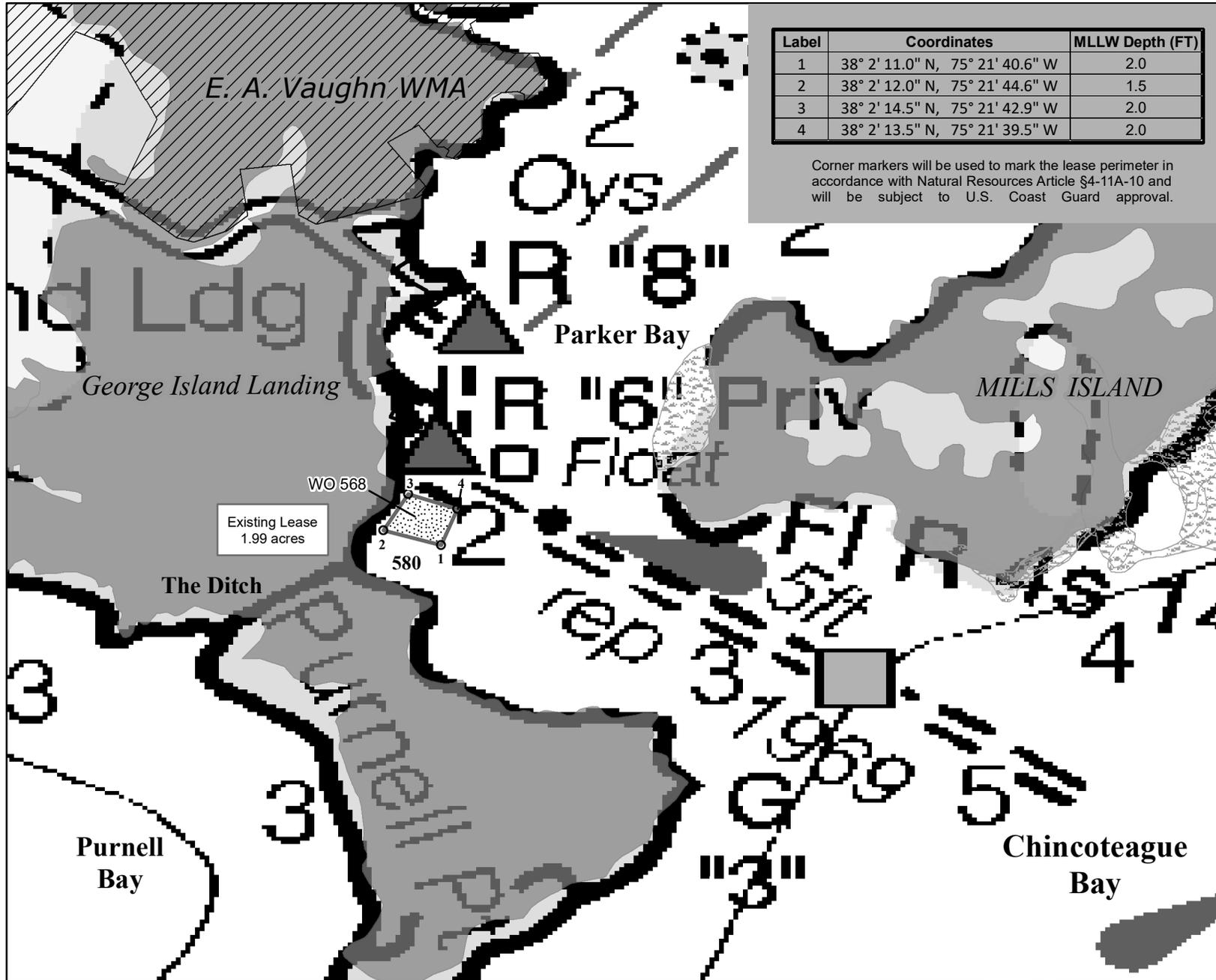
The applicant intends to continue use of currently approved bottom cages and proposes the addition of hexcyl baskets or floating bags affixed to horizontal long lines approximately 280 feet in length. The applicant plans to continue culturing Eastern Oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*), and to harvest using methods approved by the Department. Lease corners will remain marked in accordance with Code of Maryland Regulations. A map of the lease area is available on the Fishing and Boating Services Public Notice web page, [dnr.maryland.gov/Fisheries/Pages/Pub\\_Notices.aspx](http://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 gear modification 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 pertain only to the proposed gear modification, rather than the existing lease footprint or currently authorized lease activities, and must be received by the Department of Natural Resources Aquaculture and Industry Enhancement Division 580 Taylor Avenue E-4 Annapolis, MD 21401 by December 9, 2024. For questions about the project or the public notice, please contact the DNR Aquaculture and Industry Enhancement Division at [aquaculturepubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov](mailto:aquaculturepubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov) or 410-260-8252.

**Josh Kurtz, Secretary**  
**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**

# Proposed Shellfish Water Column Lease Gear Modification NAV Chart Map

## Baunhofer & Baunhofer #580 - Parker Bay, Worcester County, Maryland



Lease Area shown over NOAA Raster Navigational Charts.

-  Proposed New Gear Area
-  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)



Wes Moore  
 Governor  
 Aruna Miller  
 Lt. Governor  
 Josh Kurtz  
 Secretary  
 David Goshorn  
 Deputy Secretary



Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
 Center for Geospatial Products and Services  
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 410-260-8985 or 1-877-620-8DNR x8985  
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 DNR September 2024

