Public Notice Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fishing and Boating Services Application for Shellfish Aquaculture Lease – William R. Morris & Patrick R. Morris

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 William R. Morris and Patrick R. Morris in Smith Creek, St. Mary's County, Maryland, located on the western side of the creek approximately 3,500 feet northwest from the fork of Jutland Creek. The area applied for contains 9.5 acres more or less and is enclosed by a line beginning at corner 1, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 20.1" N., Long. 76° 25' 2.6" W., then running 309° 37' (True), approximately 26 meters to corner 2, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 20.6" N., Long. 76° 25' 3.4" W., then running 356° 4' (True), approximately 65 meters to corner 3, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 22.8" N., Long. 76° 25' 3.6" W., then running 27° 55' (True), approximately 82 meters to corner 4, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 25.1" N., Long. 76° 25' 2.1" W., then running 318° 48' (True), approximately 42 meters to corner 5, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 26.2" N., Long. 76° 25' 3.2" W., then running 255° 16' (True), approximately 74 meters to corner 6, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 25.5" N., Long. 76° 25' 6.2" W., then running 334° 22' (True), approximately 92 meters to corner 7, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 28.3" N., Long. 76° 25' 7.8" W., then running 49° 45' (True), approximately 43 meters to corner 8, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 29.2" N., Long. 76° 25' 6.5" W., then running 92° 4' (True), approximately 211 meters to corner 9, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 28.9" N., Long. 76° 24' 57.8" W., then running 179° 34' (True), approximately 149 meters to corner 10, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 24.1" N., Long. 76° 24' 57.7" W., then running 224° 1' (True), approximately 171 meters to the point of beginning.

The Department conducted a biological survey within the proposed area, evaluated harvest records and determined that this portion of PSFA NOB 31-6 is eligible to be declassified in accordance with COMAR, 08.02.04.17B. Pending declassification, the applicants propose to deposit oyster 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. A map of the proposed lease is attached.

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 public informational meetings, 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 May 13, 2019. For questions about the project or the public notice please contact Rebecca Thur at the DNR Aquaculture and Industry Enhancement Division at rebecca.thur@maryland.gov or 410-260-8252.

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Proposed Shellfish Submerged Land Lease NAV Chart Map William R. Morris & Patrick R. Morris #422 - Smith Creek, St. Mary's County Maryland

