

**Public Notice**  
**Maryland Department of Natural Resources**  
**Fishing and Boating Services**  
**Application for Shellfish Aquaculture Lease – John B. Morris, III #516, St. Mary’s 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 John B. Morris, III in Smith Creek, St. Mary’s County, Maryland, located on the western side of the creek approximately 3,370 feet northwest of channel marker “6”. The area applied for contains 3.5 acres more or less and is enclosed by a line beginning at corner 1, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 17.4" N., Long. 76° 24' 46.5" W., then running 345° (True), approximately 38 meters to corner 2, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 18.6" N., Long. 76° 24' 46.9" W., then running 5° (True), approximately 99 meters to corner 3, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 21.8" N., Long. 76° 24' 46.5" W., then running 302° (True), approximately 35 meters to corner 4, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 22.4" N., Long. 76° 24' 47.7" W., then running 346° (True), approximately 92 meters to corner 5, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 25.3" N., Long. 76° 24' 48.6" W., then running 79° (True), approximately 35 meters to corner 6, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 25.5" N., Long. 76° 24' 47.2" W., then running 154° (True), approximately 247 meters to corner 7, at or near Lat. 38° 7' 18.3" N., Long. 76° 24' 42.8" W., then running 253° (True), approximately 94 meters to the point of beginning.

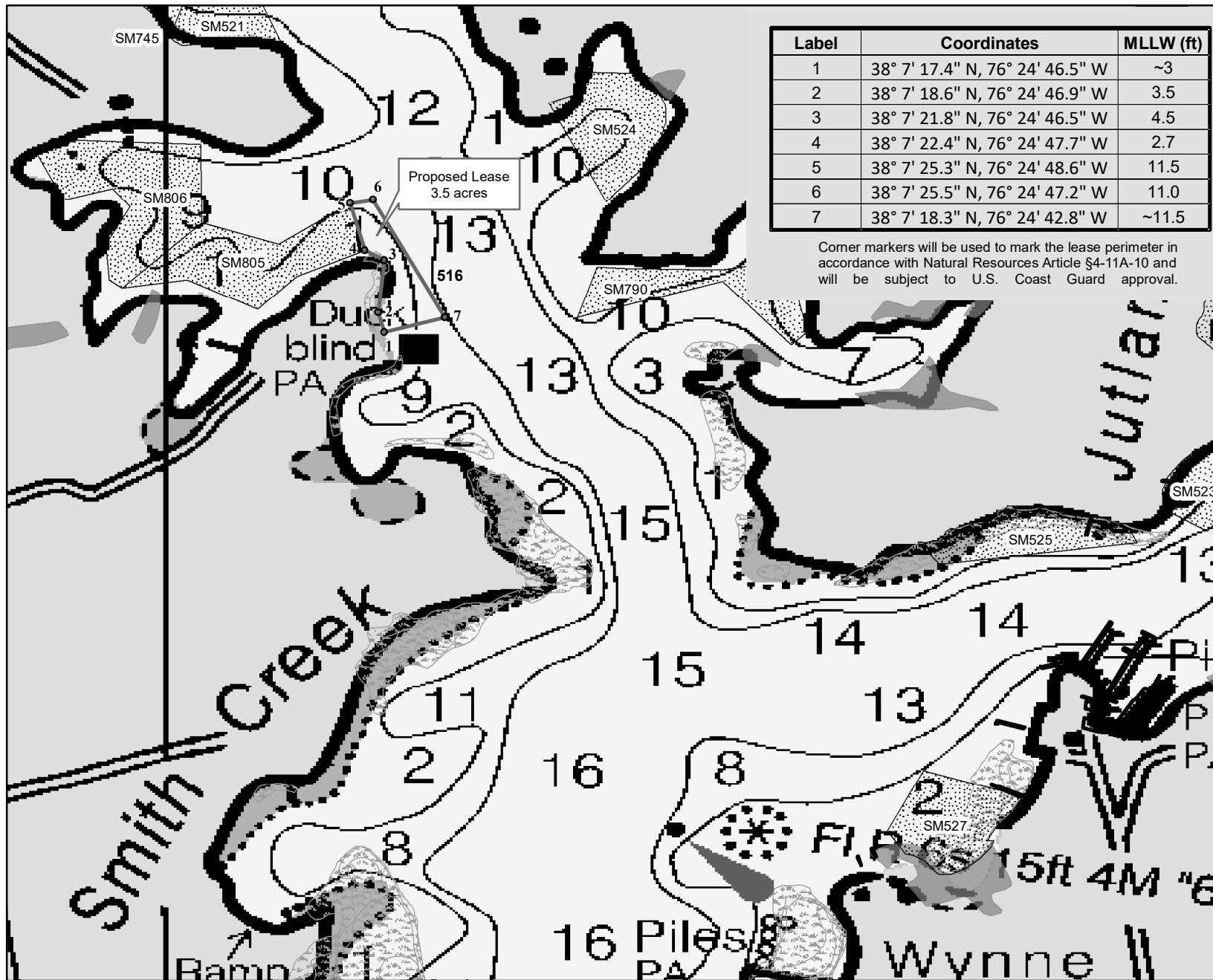
The Department conducted a biological survey within the proposed area, evaluated harvest records and determined that this portion of PSFA 156 / NOB 31-6 is eligible to be declassified in accordance with COMAR, 08.02.04.17B. Pending declassification, the applicant proposes to deposit oyster shell and 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. 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](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 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 June 12, 2023. For questions about the project or the public notice, please contact Rebecca Thur in the DNR Aquaculture and Industry Enhancement Division at [rebecca.thur@maryland.gov](mailto:rebecca.thur@maryland.gov) or 410-260-8252.

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

# Proposed Shellfish Submerged Land Lease NAV Chart Map

John B. Morris, III #516 - Smith Creek, St. Mary's County, Maryland



Label	Coordinates	MLLW (ft)
1	38° 7' 17.4" N, 76° 24' 46.5" W	~3
2	38° 7' 18.6" N, 76° 24' 46.9" W	3.5
3	38° 7' 21.8" N, 76° 24' 46.5" W	4.5
4	38° 7' 22.4" N, 76° 24' 47.7" W	2.7
5	38° 7' 25.3" N, 76° 24' 48.6" W	11.5
6	38° 7' 25.5" N, 76° 24' 47.2" W	11.0
7	38° 7' 18.3" N, 76° 24' 42.8" W	~11.5

Corner markers will be used to mark the lease perimeter in accordance with Natural Resources Article §4-11A-10 and will be subject to U.S. Coast Guard approval.

- 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)



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  
 580 Taylor Ave. E-2 Annapolis, MD 21401  
 410-260-8985 or 1-877-620-8DNR x8985  
 dnr.maryland.gov  
 DNR April 2023

