

Submitted Online Public Comments

Dare County Shellfish Lease Hearing

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

6:00 PM - 6:20 PM



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Marine Fisheries
Habitat and Enhancement Section
Shellfish Lease and Aquaculture Program

Submitted Online Public Comments

Dare County Shellfish Lease Hearing

Donnie Davis

North Carolina
11/13/2024 19:52

“I am a fishing guide out of Oregon Inlet, NC. I own and operate DOA Charters. I have been fishing the area where the Smith oyster lease is located adjacent to Walter Slough for close to 25 years. In addition to the successful oyster farming that is occurring the quantity and variety of fish species such as red drum, speckled trout, flounder, sheepshead, and black drum appear to have grown in this area as well. Capt Smith’s oyster lease has increased the overall biomass in the area and this is a win/win for everyone involved.”

Herring Shoal Shellfish Co

Hopkins/Clower
North Carolina
11/13/2024 20:47

"We are writing in support for Bobby Smiths application for space across the inlet behind pea island. The pros of aquaculture in our state out way the cons. As shellfish farmers in our area, we see the immediate abundance of aquatic life these shellfish lease support. Within months its a night and day difference see the types of finish that create resident homes around the structures to then help repopulate while cleaning the water at the same time with the farmed bivalves.

The state has an opportunity to utilize these farms to help repopulate our shellfish and fish populations, we are in full support of this lease for Bobby Smith."

James Clower

North Carolina
11/13/2024 20:51

“I am in full support for Bobby Smiths new lease application for the coordinates behind pea island and deep inlet/crab slough area. The positive attributes provided by mariculture to our states waters out way the negative.”

Colby Breen

North Carolina

11/14/2024 16:57

“As a chef & new restaurant owner to the area, Bobby has been an invaluable resource for us since we opened last fall. He has been fair, honest, & reliable, and cares a great deal about the oysters he grows & delivers to us each week. At the restaurant, each day we strive to deliver the best quality product to our guests. Bobby's oysters help us deliver on that & we look forward to continued business with him for many days to come.”