



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FISH AND WILDLIFE

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

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PHILIP D. MURPHY

Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER

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SHAWN M. LATOURETTE

Commissioner

July 31, 2023

Dear Shellfish Leaseholder,

Please be advised that the use of permit-requiring structures on a shellfish lease requires the leaseholder to obtain the appropriate permits from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection in advance of deployment. One such permit is General Permit #30 (N.J.A.C. 7:7-6.30), which authorizes the construction and/or placement and maintenance of shellfish aquaculture equipment on a valid shellfish lease (*please note that the deployment of predator screens, planting of shell or shellfish seed on a lease does not require a GP30 or notification*).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:7-6.30, the permittee shall provide written notification to the NJDEP's Bureau of Marine Habitat & Shellfisheries (MHS) **prior** to the commencement of shellfish aquaculture activities. This notification includes the deployment of any shellfish aquaculture equipment authorized by GP30. The purpose of this notification is to identify what leases have gear on it, rather than what leases could have gear on it. This notification requirement is a critical step in identifying where gear is deployed in New Jersey's coastal waters and to aid in scheduling of mandated patrols.

A few main points to keep in mind when completing the form:

- ✓ You are required to provide a notification form for **each individual** lease prior to commencement of authorized activities and prior to deployment on said lease.
- ✓ If you already have gear deployed and have not noticed the MHS, please do so immediately.
- ✓ A separate form must be submitted for each individual lease where gear is *deployed*.
- ✓ Forms should not be submitted for leases where gear is not deployed, even if those leases are covered under your DLRP permit. Do not submit for those leases until you are deploying gear.
- ✓ Upon submitting this form, you are not required to notify MHS again for this specific lease unless you need to modify the type of gear deployed on a lease or are removing the gear entirely/permanently.
- ✓ This form does **not** need to be renewed annually unless there are changes to gear type.
- ✓ If a lease will no longer have gear deployed on it, please alert MHS that the form is no longer valid and can be deleted from the database.
- ✓ Again, do not submit forms for leases that do not have gear deployed. The notification requirement is specifically for deployment.

These forms are also available online under the Resources tab at on the NJ Commercial Aquaculture website at <https://dep.nj.gov/aquaculture/forms/>. We strived to make the form and deployment reporting

process as simple as possible, but it is important for you to ensure that the forms are submitted in a timely and accurate manner as they will be used as part of the mandated inspection process. Feel free to contact staff at the appropriate office should you have any questions.

Regards,



Russ Babb, Chief
Marine Resources Administration
Bureau of Marine Habitat and Shellfisheries

Attachments (1) – GP30 Notification Form

cc. Members, Atlantic Coast Section, NJ Shellfisheries Council
Members, Delaware Bay Section, NJ Shellfisheries Council
Joe Cimino, NJ Marine Resources Administration
Jeffrey Normant, Bureau of Marine Habitat and Shellfisheries
Craig Tomlin, Bureau of Marine Habitat and Shellfisheries
Jason Snellbaker, NJFW Enforcement
Brian Scott, NJFW Enforcement
Robert Schuster, BMWM
Sarah Gentile, BMWM
Colleen Keller, DLRP
Amanda Wenczel, NJDA

