

Kittery Shellfish Conservation Committee Meeting Approved Minutes
October 6, 2021 | 4:30 PM - 5:30PM
Conference Room A

Attendees:

Todd Rollins
Dan Clapp
Erin Kempster
Dan O'Reilly
Tim Carven
John McCollet
Meryl Grady (State DMR resource)

Introductions were at the opening of the meeting.

Meryl explained that the entire Spruce Creek area is prohibited not due to water testing quality but due to recent renovations done at Portsmouth sewage treatment plant. Meryl said this could change sometime in the winter since the analysis has already begun. Once this classification changes, then more frequent/recent water testing results can be reviewed in order to re-open clamming beds

Dan C. mentioned we should hopefully re-open a recently de-commissioned testing station due west from WA33. The committee agreed that the northern corner of Spruce Creek can be overlooked due to likely poor water quality but the southern half of Spruce Creek may well be ready to be considered for re-opening.

Meryl mentioned the Brave Boat Harbor area was recently approved for re-opening. No one in the committee was aware since notification was sent to the old town clerk no longer with Kittery. Todd will work with Meryl to update the town clerk email and be added to notifications going forward.

Meryl explained the P90 scores are an average of 30 samples and samples are done 6 x a year so, a 5-year average. This means that if water quality has improved but only recently, results may not be apparent for years. Accelerated testing seemed to be possible, but only if Spruce Creek is deemed to be viable (DMR, FDA, Portsmouth water treatment working together)

Given that Brave Boat Harbor area is now allowed for clamming, the committee needs to survey the area to see if there are clams in the area. If there is sufficient amount, the committee will work with the town to begin the process of notifying the public,

reinstating the licensing process, etc.

Meryl is to provide the committee with more detailed and recent water testing results that are not included in the Investigative Report.

Adjournment – 5:30