



Tisbury Shellfish Department

PO Box 1239
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
508-774-1279

May 2022:

General Housekeeping- monthly reports, patrolling, organizing, cleaning the office as we prepared for our new setup, preparation for meetings, work on gear and the boats, etc.

Highlights: May was busy in the office as people came in to purchase their shellfish permits for summer season. I had set the dates for Family Shellfish Day, made posters, and put the information them out on the shellfish page of the website, and the SB. May is when we generally get a lot of gear (cages, traps, etc.) out into the ponds but the NE blow in the beginning of the month made things a little more difficult. This month we got our small boat in Tashmoo, buoys out delineating the clam flats in Tashmoo, and crab traps both ponds. Checked buoyed lines, for specific areas and added new informative “prohibited area” signs were installed in the Lagoon and Tashmoo. Quahog rafts are being repaired and painted for the season they will be set out just before we get the quahog seed. Our seed oysters (experiment) are doing well they made it over the winter in the Lagoon. We also made new 10 spawning cages. So far, we received 25 bags of scallops from MVSG on 5/2, and then another 43 on 5/18. They are all sitting in the Lagoon on buoyed lines. The Department is also experimenting with “Beal boxes” small wooden boxes with mesh bottom and tops, these are used in Maine to collect soft-shell clam seed. The boxes were set out in areas in both ponds where we see the clam spawn. Set up buoys in Lagoon marking our eelgrass restoration site, the hatchery has been collecting plants. Vibrio season is upon us and it’s super important that the Shellfish Department enforces all the regulations regarding this as vibrio can have major health consequences for people who eat raw oysters. I was working with other pond groups and entities to get letters of support for the shellfish department to talk with Mass DOT, with the bridge work, with regards to loss of eelgrass. MVC water sampling in the ponds. Met up with Bill Grossman of the Marine Biological Laboratory from Woods Hole, for green crabs, etc. Had discussed the results from the eelgrass survey in Tashmoo at the waterways committee. Helped at MVSG at Climate Acton week booth at the Grange Hall 5/14,

Meetings & presentations: MVSG board meeting 5/5, Waterways Committee 5/12, MSOA board meeting, LPA 5/2, Phil Colarusso eelgrass talk 5/10, regular staff meetings, and Harassment training.

Tisbury Shellfish CY 2021	
	As of May 31, 2022
Bay Scallops	--
Quahogs	498.75
Soft Shell Clams	9.5

Permits Sold Month of April 2022	
Shellfish Permits (50)	\$1410
Gauges (4)	\$20

Submitted by Danielle Ewart, Tisbury Shellfish Constable