

Oyster Lease Use Plan Questionnaire

For Office use only: Apl. # _____

Due to increasing conflicts over uses of subaqueous bottomlands (and water column) for traditional oyster cultivation, aquaculture shellfish farming, other commercial uses, recreational water uses, and riparian areas the Engineering/Surveying Department at VMRC requires a use plan for all applications for regular shellfish leases. The Code of Virginia requires that leased areas “be occupied for the purpose of planting or propagating oysters” (Chapter 6, 28.2-603). Shellfish lease applications will not be accepted for the sole purpose of attempting to exclude other legal uses of the area.

Please provide information related to the following:

1. Will the lease be used for traditional shelling of the bottom or to cultivate existing shell resources? Yes ____ No ____
2. Will there be any planting of spat and/or seed oysters on bottom.
Yes ____ No ____ Uncertain____
3. Will there be the placement of structures on-bottom for shellfish production?
Yes ____ No ____

If yes will they exceed a height of 12-inches from the substrate?

Yes ____ No ____

(Any structures that extend more than 12-inches above the substrate, or that are marked with buoys or stakes, will require additional authorization from the Fisheries Management Division and/or any floating structures will require a subaqueous permit from the Habitat Management Division and are not defacto authorized on oyster lease grounds).

4. Will there be clam cultivation using traditional methods on bottom?

Yes ____ No ____

(Any structures or nets may require additional authorization, see above).

5. Are other uses proposed not included above?

Yes ____ No ____

If yes please explain: _____

Applicants Name (Print) _____

Applicants Signature: _____