

September 18, 2019

Maryland Department of Natural Resources  
Fishing and Boating Services  
580 Taylor Avenue  
Annapolis Maryland 21401

ATTN: Rebecca Thur

RE: Proposed Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Submerged Land Lease #487  
Joshua Buckler and Holly Buckler

Dear Ms. Thur:

I am requesting a public informational hearing on the proposed commercial shellfish aquaculture submerged land lease #487 for Joshua Buckler and Holly Buckler on the Patuxent River in front of Golden Beach properties of St. Mary's County Maryland.

I am protesting the above proposed lease due to navigational concerns. The depth of water is crucial. Your measurement of the Mean Low Tide water table, taken on June 12, 2019 at five feet; which was at an unusually high water table. The average water table is usually 2 to 3 feet below the top boards on our pier. That week the water table was touching the top boards of the pier. This leaves me to believe the depths of water does not reflect the normal level. When entering and exiting our dock the boat stirs up mud due to the shallow water.

The location of the oyster bed is another major concern, as it is very close to the end of my pier. This would effect the amount of space to maneuver my boat, or other boat owners visiting me, while entering or exiting my pier. It is my understanding that if a boat does any damage to the proposed oyster bed they are responsible for the damage. This seems very unfair to a tax paying waterfront home owner.

I hope you will consider my concerns before the final approval of this lease.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Holmes  
Sandra G. Holmes  
40394 Waterview Drive  
Mechanicville MD 20659