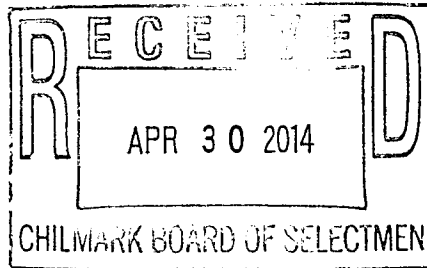


REQUEST FOR LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION (GREEN GRAB)



March 30, 2012

Isaiah L. Scheffer, Chilmark Shellfish Constable
Town of Chilmark
401 Middle Road
P.O. Box 119
Chilmark, MA 02535

Dear Mr. Hickey:

The Chilmark Shellfish Department (CSD) is requesting a letter of authorization to harvest green crabs in Menemsha and Nashaquitsa Ponds. The detrimental effect of these predators on the shellfish population is severe enough to require this action. It is just as important to aid in shellfish enhancement as ranching seed shellfish to field plant size. The Town of Chilmark has requested a letter of authorization in the past as part of this predator control program.

The following information is what the CSD is planning for the 2014 season:

- Traps are will be placed on short trawls (No more than five (5) traps per trawl).
- Buoys attached to the trawl lines are painted orange and display CSD as an identifier.
- Traps consist of both standard wire green crab traps and eel/green crab traps.
- Each trap has an identifying tag on it labeled (Chilmark Shellfish Department).
- Approximately 175 crab traps will be utilized as part of this program.

Individuals hauling traps as part of this program are:

Chilmark Municipal Employees

Isaiah L. Scheffer (Chilmark Shellfish Constable), Assistant Constable (In the hiring process)

Non Municipal Employees

Niles (Gus) Leaf – Will haul traps when the CSD can not due to time constraints. Since Gus is not an employee of the town he will sell crabs in exchange for tending traps. The Chilmark Selectmen have

approved this during meeting. Gus is aware that he must have a commercial license to sell crabs in this manner.

As part of the Predator Control Program crabs caught are counted and recorded as part of the public record. Estimates are used by counting totes of crabs and interpolating the final harvest at years end. All crabs removed from the water will be recorded in this manner and final estimates will be furnished to The Division of Marine Fisheries.

Sincerely,

Isaiah L. Scheffer

Chilmark Shellfish Constable