Proposal No. 2 7 - 2 2 7

Proposal for Task Force Consideration at the ISSC 2027 Biennial Meeting *(Tab to go to next field)*	1. a. ☐ Growing Area b. X Harvesting/Handling/Distribution c. ☐ Administrative
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9. Proposal Subject	Seed Sizes
10. Specific NSSP Guide Reference	Section II Model Ordinance, Chapter VI. Shellfish Aquaculture, @.02 Seed Shellstock
11. Text of Proposal/ Requested Action	Chapter VI. Shellfish Aquaculture @ .02 Seed Shellstock A. The Authority shall establish the maximum seed size for each species of shellfish that can be: (1) ~~p~~Produced in or sourced from prohibited or unclassified waters, conditionally approved waters in the closed status, or conditionally restricted waters in the closed status, as classified on the day the seed is moved. In determining the maximum seed size for seed produced in or sourced from prohibited waters, conditionally approved waters in the closed status, or conditionally restricted waters in the closed status, Authorities shall establish sizes that require a minimum of 120 days of growing to reach market size. (a) As an alternative to establishing maximum seed sizes, the Authority may establish other methods, including record keeping by growers, to ensure that such seed is grown on the aquaculture site for a minimum of 120 days. (2) Produced in or sourced from restricted waters or conditionally restricted waters in the open status, as classified on the day the seed is moved, unless the seed is being subjected to an approved relay process. In determining the maximum seed size for seed produced in or sourced from restricted waters, Authorities shall establish sizes that require a minimum of 60 days of growing to reach market size. (a) As an alternative to establishing maximum seed sizes, the Authority may establish other methods, including record keeping by growers, to ensure that such seed is grown on the aquaculture site for a minimum of 60 days. (3) Produced in or sourced from approved waters or conditionally approved waters in the open status, as classified on the day the seed is moved, if the growing area which the seed is produced in or sourced from is different than the growing area in which the shellfish are to be aquacultured. In determining the maximum seed size for seed produced in or sourced from approved waters or conditionally approved waters in the open status, Authorities shall establish seed sizes that require a minimum of 14 days, or alternative time period established by the Authority based on purging rate studies, of growing to reach market size. (a) As an alternative to establishing maximum seed sizes, the Authority may establish other methods, including record keeping by growers, to ensure that such seed is grown on the aquaculture site for a minimum of 14 days or alternative time period. (2) The Authority may exempt shellstock from the requirements in .02 A. (3) when the harvester tag or an approved recordkeeping method identifies all growing areas in which the shellstock was held within the 14-day or alternative time period. B. The Authority shall establish appropriate corrective actions for when seed exceeds the maximum seed sizes ~~when it has been produced in waters classified as prohibited~~ established in Section @.02 (A).

12. Public Health Significance	In addition to establishing maximum sizes for seed from prohibited waters, it is also necessary to consider conditionally approved waters in the closed status and conditionally restricted waters in the closed status, since those classifications are effectively the same as prohibited. It is also necessary to establish a seed size (or other means methods such as recordkeeping) for seed from restricted waters and conditionally restricted waters in the open status, in order to avoid requirements for relay from becoming relevant (unless relay is being conducted). And, if seed is from a different growing area than the growing area in which it will be aquacultured, it is necessary to establish a seed size (or other means methods such as recordkeeping) for seed from approved waters and conditionally approved waters in the open status, so that the seed spends at least 14 days (or alternative time period, established by the Authority based on purging rate studies) in the new growing area for the purpose of ensuring that it is possible to accurately attribute any illnesses to the correct growing area. For example, in Delaware, we have established max seed sizes of: • 25mm for oysters and 15mm for clams from prohibited waters and conditionally approved waters in the closed status to ensure growing for 120 days • 35mm for oysters and 25mm for clams from restricted waters to ensure growing for 60 days in order to avoid relay requirements • 50mm for oysters and 40mm for clams from approved waters or conditionally approved waters in the open status to facilitate accurate attribution of any illnesses to the correct growing area.
13. Cost Information	None
14. Changes Needed to Guidance (if proposed change is adopted)	None