Proposal No. 2 7 - 2 3 0

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	Growing Area Transfers
10. Specific NSSP Guide Reference	Section II Model Ordinance, Chapter VI. Shellfish Aquaculture, .02 General
11. Text of Proposal/ Requested Action	Chapter VI. Shellfish Aquaculture, .02 General A. Any person who performs aquaculture as defined in the Model Ordinance or operates an aquaculture facility to raise shellfish for human consumption shall obtain: (1) A permit from the Authority for the activity and functioning of his facility; (2) A harvester's license; and (3) Certification as a dealer, where necessary. B. Shellfish aquaculture as defined in the Model Ordinance shall be practiced only in strict compliance with the provisions of the permit issued by the Authority for the aquaculture activity. Authorization shall be based on the operator's written operational plan. C. Prior to beginning his activity, an operator shall obtain the permission of the Authority for use of his facility. D. Any shellfish seed raised in aquaculture that exceeds the maximum seed size established by the Authority shall be subjected to relaying or depuration prior to direct marketing if the culture area or facility is located in or using water which is in: (1) The closed status of the conditionally approved classification; (2) The restricted classification; or (3) The open status of the conditionally restricted classification. E. When shellstock, excluding seed and shellstock in a permitted wet storage area, are transferred from one growing area to another, the shellstock shall be held in the new growing area for a minimum of 14 days, or alternative time period established by the Authority based on purging rate studies, except for relayed shellstock for which the Authority has established a shorter time period. (1) If required by the Authority, the grower shall maintain records to document compliance with this requirement. (2) The Authority may exempt shellstock from the requirements in .02 E. 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. ~~E~~F. Only drugs sanctioned by the FDA shall be used for shellfish treatment. ~~F~~G. Harvesting, processing, storage, and shipping requirements for shellfish raised in a land-based aquaculture facility or a seed rearing facility or system that exceeds the maximum seed size established by the Authority shall be the same as the requirements for shellfish specified in Chapters V., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII. and XIV.

	~~G~~H. Complete and accurate records shall be maintained for at least two (2) years by the operator of the aquaculture facility and shall include the: (1) Source of shellfish, including seed if the seed is from growing areas which are not in the approved or conditionally approved classification; and (2) Water source, its treatment method, if necessary, and its quality in land based systems.
12. Public Health Significance	Shellfish (except for seed) transferred from one growing area to another should spend at least 14 days (or alternative time period established by the Authority based on purging rate studies) in the new growing area prior to harvest, since if shellfish are transferred to a new growing area and then immediately harvested, it would not be possible to attribute illnesses to the correct growing area. Either that, or both the old growing area and the new growing area should appear on the tag or other recordkeeping system, in order to facilitate accurate traceback to all growing areas that could be responsible for the illness. The idea is to either narrow the growing areas attributable to an illness to one area, or to ensure that all growing areas which may be linked to the illness can be tracked. The length of 14 days is used in this proposal because it is the same time period that is currently used for shellfish relay, after which time the shellstock are considered to have completed purging, although the Authority could establish a different time period based on purging rate studies. This proposal does not pertain to seed or wet stored shellstock. The Authority may want to consider the need for recordkeeping by growers to ensure that the 14-day time period is met, but this proposal does not require recordkeeping.
13. Cost Information	None
14. Changes Needed to Guidance (if proposed change is adopted)	None