

I am a shell fisherman and member of the Rhode Island Shellfish Association. We all know there are many historic shellfish grounds that do no longer produce quahogs. Hopefully someone can find the reason and it can be remedied. My concern is that we may be making the problem worst by opening new areas and depleting them. In the 80ties the State opened area A, Barrington Beach area. The area was loaded with clams and everyone had many bar shots [ full rakes ]. Now we have a newly opened area in the Providence River with some locations in this area as good as Barrington Beach was in the 80ties. My concern is that it takes clams to make clams and if the spat or seed from these areas helped replenish the areas of the bay that no longer produce young clams could this be part of the problem. I know how bad things are in the industry and many depend on these new areas but could there be a better way to utilize the resource in these areas because when they are gone so is their seed.

Sent from my iPhone Wayne Rice