Due to increasing conflicts over uses of subaqueous bottomlands (and water column) for traditional oyster cultivation, aquaculture shellfish farming, other commercial uses, recreational water uses, and riparian areas the Engineering/Surveying Department at VMRC requires a use plan for all applications for regular shellfish leases. The Code of Virginia requires that leased areas “be occupied for the purpose of planting or propagating oysters” (Chapter 6, 28.2-603). Shellfish lease applications will not be accepted for the sole purpose of attempting to exclude other legal uses of the area.

Please provide information related to the following:

1. Will the lease be used for traditional shelling of the bottom or to cultivate existing shell resources? Yes ____ No ____

2. Will there be any planting of spat and/or seed oysters on bottom.  
   Yes ____ No ____ Uncertain_____

3. Will there be the placement of structures on-bottom for shellfish production?  
   Yes ____ No ____  
   If yes will they exceed a height of 12-inches from the substrate?  
   Yes ____ No ____

   (Any structures that extend more than 12-inches above the substrate, or that are marked with buoys or stakes, will require additional authorization from the Fisheries Management Division and/or any floating structures will require a subaqueous permit from the Habitat Management Division and are not defacto authorized on oyster lease grounds).

4. Will there be clam cultivation using traditional methods on bottom? 
   Yes ____ No ____

   (Any structures or nets may require additional authorization, see above).

5. Are other uses proposed not included above?  
   Yes ____ No ____  
   If yes please explain: _____________________________________________

Applicants Name (Print)___________________________________________
Applicants Signature: _____________________________________________