

Detering Birds



Massachusetts – SEMAC mini-grant projects



- Funded projects late in 2021
 - Missed short tern season
 - Supply chain delays
- Quick summary so far



Methods that showed some level of effectiveness – so far

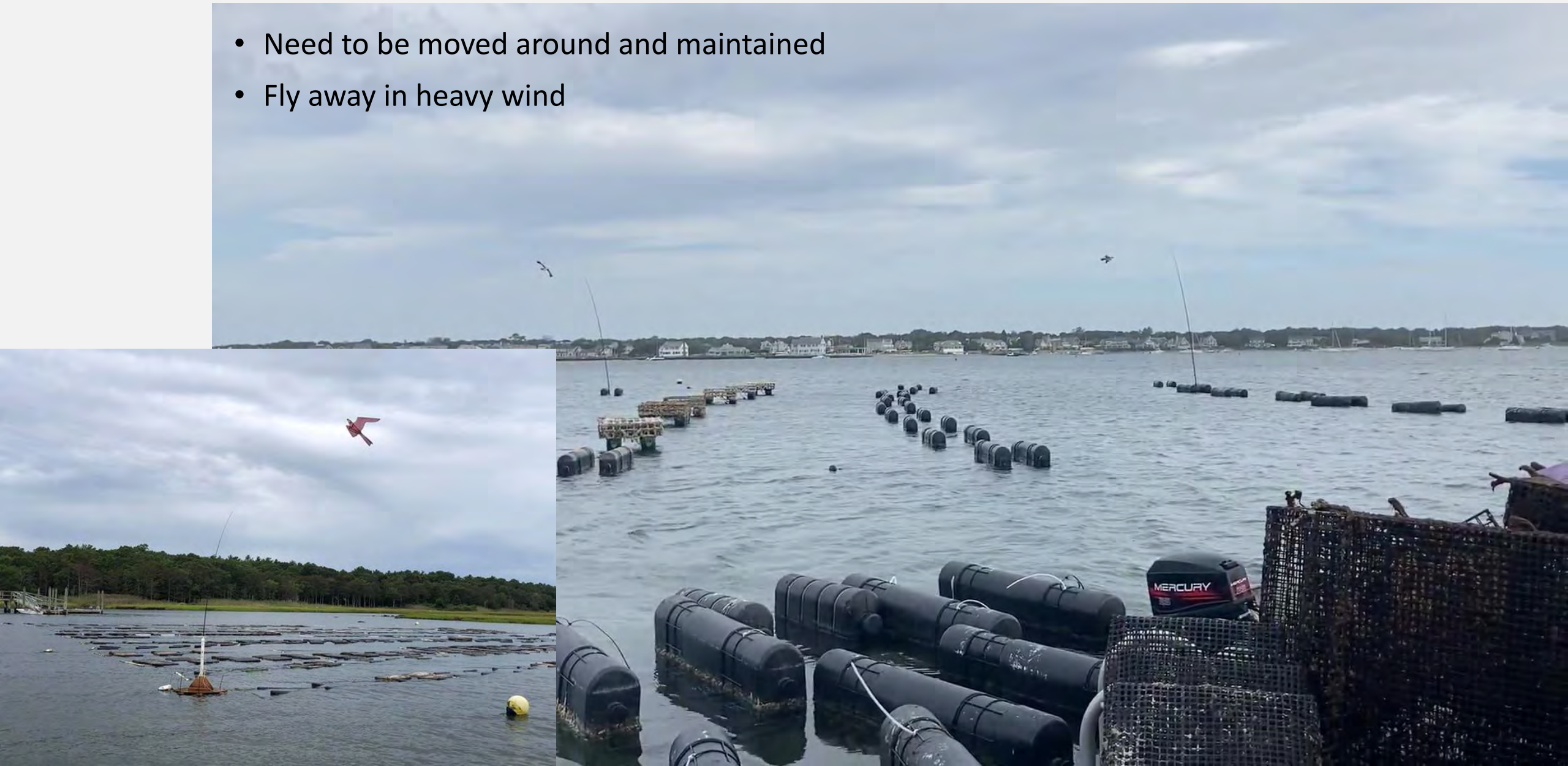
Immersing or Suspending

- Suspending bag from 1 float
- Having bags more immersed



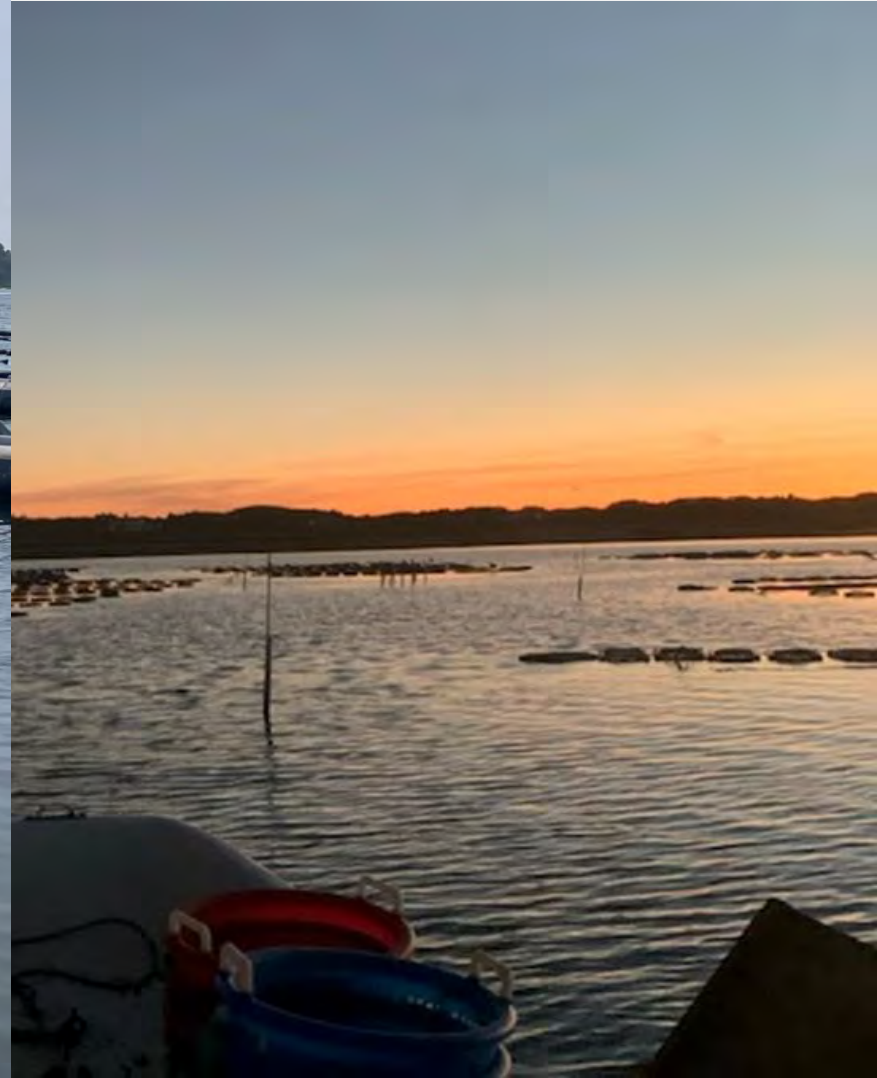
Scare Kites

- Need to be moved around and maintained
- Fly away in heavy wind



Pole & Line

- Some moved from mono to wire to hold up better



Perching deterrents

- Seem to keep birds off to varying degrees but handling gear, longevity, and cost are issues
- Stainless spikes seemed to work well



Perching deterrents

- Mixed results on zip tie “ticklers”



- Boat type wire or sweeps
- Also string and bungee on structures



Other Lessons Learned

Not so good...cheapo
kites



Not so good...

Reflective tape or gear that
does not stay on pontoon well



Not so good...

Zip ties that hang into water, and how many zip ties will it take to deter terns on floating bags and will it remain effective when flipping routinely with fouling

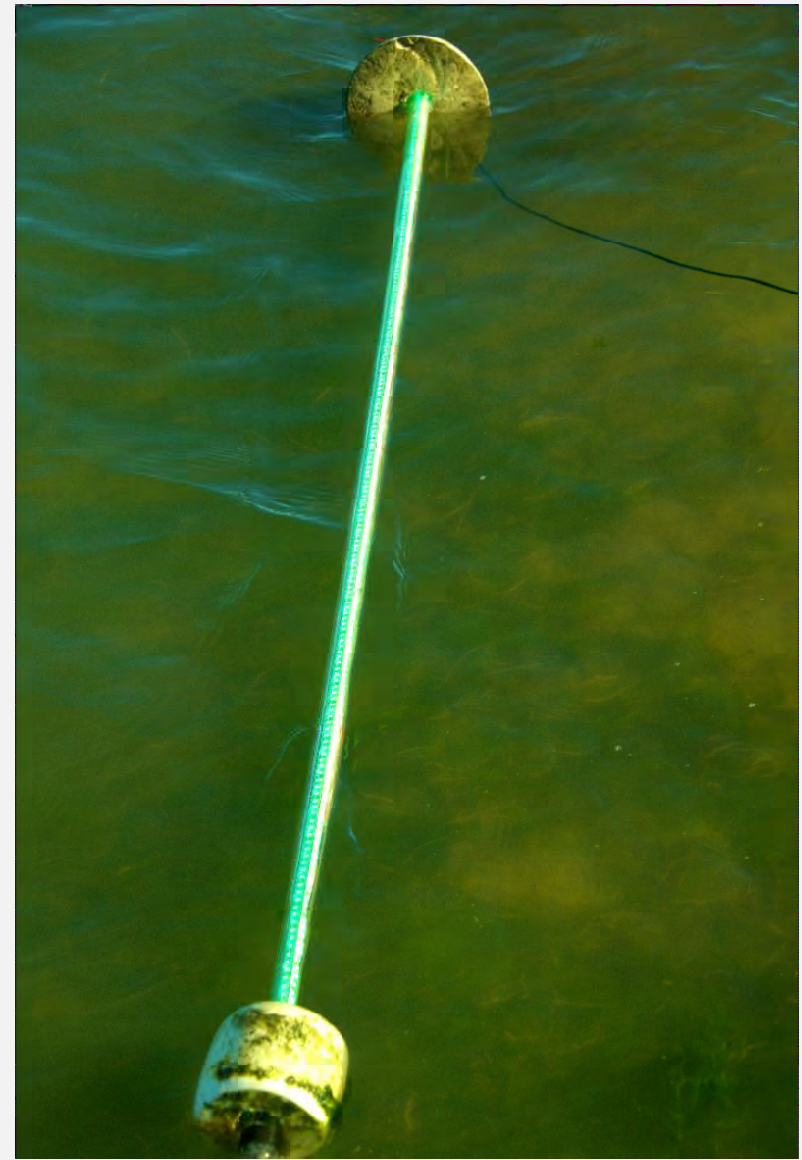


Somewhat effective but challenging...

Reflective pinwheels and plastic spikes
were difficult to maintain on pontoons



Prototype for now – Bird Activated Flare/Light



Prototype for now – Bird Detererring Sprinkler

Likely for floating within a bag array or on a raft or other structure



Need more testing...

- Every site is a bit different
- Combination of methods may be needed
- Will work with a couple of farms this season to better quantify what works
- Will follow up with growers funded last year

