Hypoxia is defined as a low level of oxygen that potentially impairs the growth and survival of aquatic life. During summer months, the surface water of Long Island Sound heats up and form a distinct layer "floating" over the bottom water, preventing oxygen in the surface layer from mixing into the bottom layer and thereby allowing hypoxia to occur. When smaller fish Nitrogen pollution from septic tanks, sewage treatment plants, and runoff from roads, lawns, disappear from and farms; Nitrogen pollution from air deposits. oxygen-depleted Humpback waters, it impacts whale larger predators. Dolphin Warmer surface layer Excess of algal growth More oxygen, less salty **Pycnocline** Menhaden The interface 3 Algae die and sink to bottom that prevents layer mixing Striped Cooler bass Scup bottom layer Less oxygen, Bacteria use up more salty oxygen to decompose the dead algae - Sediment Flounder Immobile marine crab Although some fish and crustaceans life are unable to can move away from the hypoxic escape hypoxic conditions, they may still suffer conditions, from health and behavior impacts. therefore Scallops decline in Critters in sediments tolerate low oxygen, Polychaete Clams health or



while using it faster than being replaced.

Oysters

die-off.