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Statement on Bivalve Shellfish from Massachusetts Marine Fisheries 6/6/19

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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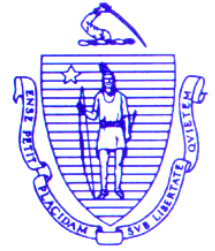
David E. Pierce, Ph.D.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Charles D. Baker
Governor
Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor
Kathleen Theoharides
Secretary
Ronald Amidon
Commissioner
Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

June 6, 2019

Board of Selectmen
Town of Eastham
Town Hall
Eastham, MA 02642

Board of Selectmen
Town of Orleans
Town Hall
Orleans, MA 02653

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that **bivalve shellfish** from areas OC:2 through OC:6 defined below **no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison-(PSP))** from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium (spp.)* in excess of established standards. These areas, OC:2 through OC:6, shall remain closed to the harvesting of all carnivorous snails.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, sections 74A and 75 and 322 CMR sections 7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closures for **bivalve shellfish** issued on April 24, 2019 **will be rescinded at sunrise on Friday, June 7, 2019** in areas OC:2 through OC:6. Bivalve shellfish in areas currently classified as APPROVED and in the “open” status may now be harvested for direct human consumption subject to local rules and regulations under authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, section 52. Similarly, those areas classified as CONDITIONALLY APPROVED and in the “open” status are subject to the classification conditions. All areas OC:2 through OC:6 remain closed to the harvesting of all carnivorous snails.

Status: Open to Bivalve Shellfish Harvesting. These areas remain closed to the harvesting of all carnivorous snails.

NAUSET SYSTEM OC:2 – OC:6

OC:2 NAUSET HARBOR, EASTHAM/ORLEANS

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Nauset Harbor in the Towns of Eastham and Orleans, northerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Mill Pond in the Town of Orleans; southerly of a line drawn across the Middle Channel at the Eastham/Orleans town line; southerly of a line drawn across the southern mouth of the Hemenway River in the Town of Eastham; and easterly of a line drawn across the mouth of Town Cove.

OC:3 MILL POND, ORLEANS

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Mill Pond in the Town of Orleans, southerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Roberts Cove.

OC:4 TOWN COVE, ORLEANS/EASTHAM

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Town Cove in the Towns of Eastham and Orleans, southwesterly of a line drawn from Snow Point in the Town of Orleans to the western side of the mouth to the Hemenway River at Fort Hill in the Town of Eastham.

OC:5 NAUSET MARSH, EASTHAM

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Nauset Marsh in the Town of Eastham, northerly of a line drawn across the Middle Channel at the Eastham/Orleans Town Line; westerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Nauset Harbor; northerly of a line drawn across the mouth of the Hemenway River at Fort Hill in the Town of Eastham; and easterly of a line drawn across the entrance of Salt Pond in the Town of Eastham.

OC:6 SALT POND, EASTHAM

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Salt Pond in the Town of Eastham, westerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Salt Pond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David E. Pierce". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

David E. Pierce
Director

cc: A. Abdal-Khabir, P. Moran, DELE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, T. Shields, DMF
R. Amidon, M. King, DFG
J. Hobill, DEP
FDA, DPH
N. Paine, Eastham Shellfish Constable
N. Sears, Orleans Shellfish Constable