



David E. Pierce
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

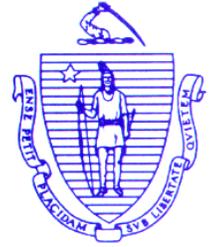
Division of Marine Fisheries

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February 17, 2016

Revised Public Hearing Notice Vibrio Management Public Hearings and Public Comment Period

Under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 30A and pursuant to the authority found at M.G.L. c. 130 § 17A, 52, 80, 81 and 82, the Division of Marine Fisheries and the Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission have scheduled two public hearings and a public comment period to accept comment on draft regulations to 322 CMR 16.05, which amend the state's seasonal Vibrio management regulations for the commercial oyster fishery.

1. **Vibrio Management (322 CMR 16.05)**

- a. Reduce from 14-days to 10-days the period that aquaculturists must segregate and re-submerge oysters on their license site following offsite culling. This new 10-day re-submergence requirement will also apply to oysters that are returned from a primary buyer to an aquaculturist in the case of recall or non-compliance.
- b. Reduce time to icing requirement from 2-hours to 1-hour after harvest or first exposure for certain shellfish growing areas in Western Cape Cod Bay (CCB-42, CCB-43, CCB-44, CCB-45, CCB-46, CCB-47) and Martha's Vineyard (V-20) during the period of July 1 – September 15.
- c. Despite the above described seasonal adjustment in the time-to-icing requirement, clarify that aquaculturists who conduct oyster culture practices on off-site floating structures may still bring these oysters to market on the following calendar day provided the culture activity did not exceed two hours from harvest or first exposure. Only when culture activity exceeds two hours from harvest or first exposure must the oysters be segregated and re-submerged on the license site for 10-days.

Revised Public Hearing Schedule

Tuesday, March 29, 2016
Start Time: 6:00 PM
Plymouth Radisson
180 Water Street
Plymouth, MA

Wednesday, March 30, 2016
Start Time: 11:00 AM
Edgartown Town Hall
70 Main Street
Edgartown, MA

Instructions for Written Comments

Written public comments will be accepted until noon of Friday, April 1, 2016. Please address all comments to Director David Pierce. Comments can be sent by e-mail to marine.fish@state.ma.us or by mail to 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114. To obtain a full copy of the draft regulations, contact Jared Silva by phone (617-626-1534) or through e-mail (jared.silva@state.ma.us).

For more information about Vibrio management in Massachusetts, contact our Shellfish Program at 508-990-2860 or visit our [website](#).