

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 626.1520 Fax (617) 626.1509



May 20, 2005

To the selectmen and mayors of the following municipalities:

Salisbury, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, Ipswich, Essex, Gloucester, Rockport, Manchester, Beverly, Danvers, Salem, Marblehead, Swampscott, Lynn, Nahant, Saugus, Revere, Winthrop, Boston, Winthrop, Hingham, Hull, Cohasset, Scituate, Marshfield, Duxbury, Kingston, Plymouth, Bourne and Sandwich

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that bivalved molluscan shellfish and carnivorous snails from the below-defined area contain Paralytic Shellfish Poison toxin (also known as "Red Tide") from the dinoflagellate <u>Alexandrium (spp.)</u> in excess of the established standards.

Under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A and 75, the below-defined area is closed to the harvest of all shellfish, and carnivorous snails, with the exception of the adductor muscle of the sea scallop, until subsequent examination shows that these shellfish are safe for human consumption (crustaceans such as lobsters and crabs are not included in this closure).

The below-defined area, with the exception of that portion of Boston Harbor noted below, is CLOSED TO THE TAKING OF ALL SHELLFISH AND CARNIVOROUS SNAILS (with the above-noted exceptions for sea scallops, crabs and lobsters). Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish including whole sea scallops or roe-on sea scallops or carnivorous snails and the possession of shellfish or carnivorous snails, except sea scallop adductor muscles, from the below-defined area is prohibited.

Under authority of 322 CMR 7.01(7) all permits issued thereunder are hereby conditioned to prohibit the taking, selling or possession of shellfish from the below defined areas.

AREA CLOSED TO THE HARVEST OF ALL SHELLFISH AND CARNIVOROUS SNAILS (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF SEA SCALLOP ADDUCTOR MUSCLES, LOBSTERS AND CRABS)

"The waters, flats and all tributaries within the above-listed cities and towns and those marine waters managed by the Commonwealth from the New Hampshire/Massachusetts state boundary southerly to the eastern shore of the mouth of Scorton Creek in the Town of Sandwich, including the eastern end of the Cape Cod Canal east of the Sagamore Bridge. **Exception**: those waters, flats and tributaries southwest of a line drawn from the

southern tip of Deer Island in the Town of Winthrop to Point Allerton in the Town of Hull."

Sincerely,

Paul J. Diodati Director

cc: J. Hanlon, K. Dolan, J. Tulik, A. Wolski, DELE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, DMF
WPC, DEP
FDA
DPH
Shellfish Constables of the above Cities and Towns