



David E. Pierce
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Lieutenant Governor

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Mary-Lee King

Deputy Commissioner

July 17, 2017

Board of Selectmen
Town of Essex
Town Hall
Essex, MA 01929

Honorable Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken
City of Gloucester
City Hall
Gloucester, MA 01930

Board of Selectmen
Town of Ipswich
Town Hall
Ipswich, MA 01938

Ladies & Gentlemen,

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that softshell clams (*Mya arenaria*) and razor clams (*Ensis directus*) from area N7 Essex Bay in the towns of Essex and Ipswich, and the City of Gloucester, no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP)) from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium* (*spp.*) in excess of established standards. All other shellfish and carnivorous snails in N7, Essex Bay remain closed to harvesting.

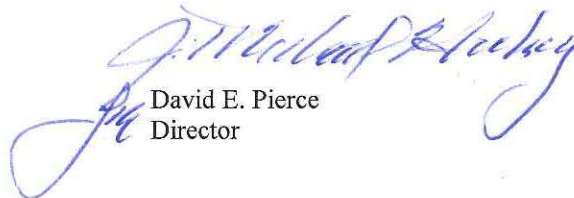
Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A and 75, and 322 CMR sections 7.01(7), 7.02 and 10.00 the PSP closure for softshell clams and razor clams issued on July 9, 2017 will be rescinded at sunrise on July 18, 2017 in area N7 Essex Bay. Softshell clams and razor clams in areas currently classified as Conditionally 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. All other shellfish and carnivorous snails in N7, Essex Bay remain closed to harvesting.

Status: OPEN to the HARVEST OF SOFTSHELL CLAMS AND RAZOR CLAMS

N7 ESSEX BAY

The waters, flats and tributaries of Essex Bay in the Towns of Ipswich and Essex and the City of Gloucester, inside and south and west of a line drawn across the Essex Bay inlet from the southern most point of Crane Beach in the Town of Ipswich easterly to the northern most point of Two Penny Loaf in Gloucester.

Sincerely,



David E. Pierce
Director

cc: J. McGinn, B. Perrin, P. Moran, DELE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, J. Kennedy, DMF
R. Amidon, M. King, DFG
DEP
FDA
DPH
Shellfish Constables of the above cities and towns