

David E. Pierce Director

## Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, Massachusetts 02114 (617)626-1520 fax (617)626-1509

October 9, 2016

Board of Selectmen of the following towns, Town of Wareham Town Hall Wareham, MA 02571

RE: EMERGENCY CLOSURE

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that all approved and conditionally approved areas in the Town of Wareham, BB28-BB44, no longer meet the established criteria for a status of "OPEN TO SHELLFISHING" due to a potentially toxic phytoplankton bloom in Buzzards Bay, which can cause Amnesiac Shellfish Poisoning (ASP). This closure takes effect at sunrise on October 8, 2016.

Under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Sections 74A, and 75, the status of the below defined areas shall be changed to "CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING". Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish and the possession of shellfish from the below defined areas are 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.

## CLASSIFICATION: APPROVED AND CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

## TOXIC PLANKTON BLOOM CLOSURE

Status: Closed To Shellfishing with the exception of bay and sea scallop adductor muscles and carnivorous snails

BB28 - BB44

The waters of Wareham.

"The waters, flats and all tributaries of the Town of Wareham."

The preceding areas shall remain in the closed status until examined by the Division of Marine Fisheries and notification is made that the areas have been placed in the OPEN status. Sincerely.

David E. Pierce,

Director



Charles D. Baker Governor Karyn E. Polito

Lieutenant Governor Matthew A. Beaton

Secretary George N. Peterson, Jr. Commissioner

Mary-Lee King

Deputy Commissioner

cc: J. McGinn, B. Perrin, P. Moran, DELE

D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, TY. Shields, DMF

G. Peterson, Jr., M. King, DFG

WPC. DEP

FDA

DPH

B. Buckminster, Shellfish Constable of Wareham