The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**Division of Marine Fisheries**
(617) 626-1520 | mass.gov/MarineFisheries

| Maura T. Healey | Kimberly Driscoll | Rebecca L. Tepper | Thomas K. O'Shea | Daniel J. McKiernan |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Governor*** | ***Lt. Governor*** | ***Secretary*** | ***Commissioner*** | ***Director*** |


November 17, 2026

Town of Falmouth Selectboard
Town Hall
Falmouth, MA 02540

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In accordance with Chapter 130, section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that Eel River (SC14), closed on November 7, 2026, due to heavy rain, now meet the National Shellfish Sanitation Program guidelines for an "Open to Shellfishing" status.

Therefore, the area identified below will revert to its former status prior to the closure issued on November 7, 2026, or in the case of "CONDITIONALLY APPROVED" areas, acquire the status dictated by its Conditional Area Management Plan criteria, and local rules and regulations under authority of MGL Chapter 130, section 52. This opening will be **effective at sunrise on November 18, 2026.**

Areas classified as "PROHIBITED" shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption.

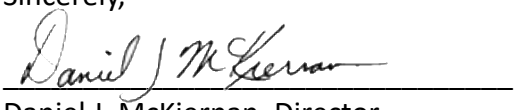
Under authority of 322 CMR 7.01(7) all permits issued thereunder are hereby conditioned to permit the taking, selling or possession of shellfish from the area listed below.

**STATUS: OPEN TO THE TAKING OF SHELLFISH**
**Subject to conditional area management plan criteria where applicable**

The waters, flats and all tributaries of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts within the shellfish growing area of SC14 in the Town of Falmouth.

Individual shellfish growing area definition boundaries are mapped on the Division's website at Shellfish classification areas | Mass.gov.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: J. Monaghan, J. Chapin, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, DMF
J. Hobill, DEP
FDA, DPH
C. Martinsen, Falmouth Shellfish Constable