



**David E. Pierce**  
*Director*

# *Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

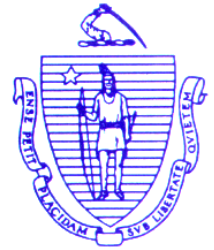
## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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December 3, 2015

*Marine Fisheries Advisory*

### **PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULED TO SOLICIT INDUSTRY FEEDBACK PRIOR TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 VIBRIO PARAHAEMOLYTICUS CONTROL PLAN FOR OYSTERS**

**Public meetings have been scheduled to solicit industry feedback for the development of the 2016 Massachusetts Vibrio Parahaemolyticus (Vp.) Control Plan for Oysters.** The meetings will include a recap of the 2015 Vp. control season, followed by a feedback session to collect industry input for the development of the 2016 Massachusetts Vibrio Parahaemolyticus (Vp.) Control Plan for Oysters.

The National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) requires member states with a history of Vp. illness to develop and implement a plan to control post-harvest growth of Vp. bacteria in oysters. The NSSP also requires the annual submission of an evaluation on the effectiveness of the control plan and requires states to modify the control plan when the evaluation shows elements of the plan are ineffective or there is a continued occurrence of Vp. illness. The 2016 Vp. Control Plan for Oysters will be developed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health, Food Protection Program, and the Division of Marine Fisheries with input from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Massachusetts oyster industry. **Official public comment will take place in early 2016 following the completion of a draft 2016 Vp. Control Plan;** the December industry feedback sessions are designed to aid in the development of that draft.

#### Public Meeting Schedule

##### **Friday, December 11, 2015**

Eastham Town Hall-- Earl Mountain Room.  
2500 State Hwy, Eastham, MA 02642  
From 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

##### **Friday, December 11, 2015**

Barnstable County Complex, Harbor View Rm  
3195 Main St, Barnstable, MA 02630  
From 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM.

For more information about the management of shellfish and the Vp. Control Plan for Oysters please contact the *Marine Fisheries* Shellfish Program at (508-990-2860); e-mail ([marine.fish@state.ma.us](mailto:marine.fish@state.ma.us)); or visit our [website](#).