

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



December 5, 2005

To the mayor and selectmen of the following municipalities: Salisbury, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, Ipswich, Essex, and Gloucester

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that shellfish, **except Ocean quahogs**, (*Arctica islandica*), whole Sea scallops (*Placopecten magillanicus*) in the shell or roe-on, and carnivorous snails, channeled and knobbed whelks and moon snails (*Lunatia heros*) and (*Polinices duplicatus*), from the below-defined area no longer contain biotoxins (PSP) from the phytoplankton <u>Alexandrium (spp.)</u> in excess of established standards.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, 75 and 322 CMR 7.01 (7) **at sunrise on Tuesday, December 6, 2005**, the belowdefined area will revert to its former status prior to the PSP closures of May 19, 2005. Those areas classified as APPROVED and in the "open" status are now open to the harvest of **surf clams** for direct human consumption subject to local rules and regulations under authority Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, section 52. Similarly, those areas classified as CONDTIONALLY APPROVED are open subject to the classification conditions.

"The waters, and flats and all tributaries in the above listed cities and towns and those marine waters managed by the Commonwealth from the New Hampshire/Massachusetts state boundary to the northeast end of Two Penny Loaf located in Essex Bay and the City of Gloucester (N:1 to N:7)."

Sincerely,

Paul J. Diodati Director cc: J. Hanlon, K. Dolan, J. Tulik, OELE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, J. Kennedy, DMF
WPC, DEP
FDA
DPH
Shellfish Constables of the above Cities and Towns.