



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

December 21, 2016



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

George N. Peterson, Jr.
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King

To the Selectmen of:
Essex and Ipswich, and Mayor of Gloucester

Ladies & Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has closed, until further notice, portions of Area N7 - Essex Bay, in the Towns of Essex and Ipswich and the City of Gloucester due to the discharge of sewage. The closure is effective starting 10:45 AM on Tuesday December 20, 2016. As a result, the status of these areas has been changed to "CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING."

Therefore, the below defined areas of N7 - Essex Bay classified as Conditionally Approved and in the Open Status shall be closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption until further notice. 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.

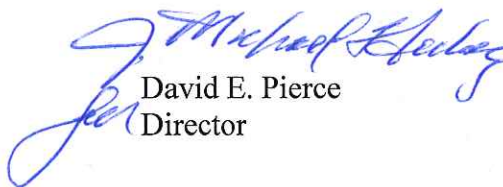
CLASSIFICATION: Conditionally Approved, N7.0 - Essex Bay
STATUS: CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING

N7.0

The waters, flats, and tributaries of Essex Bay in the City of Gloucester and the Towns of Essex and Ipswich within the following metes and bounds: West of a line drawn southeasterly from the Choate House on Hog Island to a boulder with a red/orange colored mark on the western most point of Corn Island; west of line drawn southeasterly from the relic chimney on the southeast most point of Cross Island to a red/orange colored marker near Tommy Island and the Essex/Gloucester corporate boundary; north of a line drawn from a red/orange colored marker on the property at No. 237 Concord Street to a red/orange marker on the property at No. 257 Concord Street; north of a line drawn west and north from a red/orange colored marker on the south bank of Lufkin Creek at the Essex River confluence to a red/orange colored marker on the opposite bank of the Essex River; south of line drawn due west from a red/orange marker on the western most point of Hog Island to a red/orange colored marker to the eastern bank of the "State Wildlife Management Area". **With the exception of Farm Creek and Walker's/Joe's Creek which shall remain in an Open Status and open to shellfishing.**

The preceding areas, with the exception of Farm Creek and Walker's/Joe's Creek, shall remain in the closed status until sunrise on Wednesday, January 11, at which time the areas will revert to the Open Status and can re-open to shellfishing under the terms and conditions of the Conditionally Approved classification.

Sincerely,



David E. Pierce
Director

cc: G. Peterson, Jr., M. King, DFG
J. McGinn, B. Perrin., P. Moran, R. Thurlow, MEP
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, J. Kennedy, DMF
D. Ferris, DEP
FDA
DPH
Shellfish Constables of the above Cities and Towns