



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

January 27, 2023

Board of Selectmen
Town of Marshfield
Town Hall
Marshfield, MA 02050

Board of Selectmen
Town of Scituate
Town Hall
Scituate, MA 02066

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the below-defined shellfish growing areas in Scituate South Coastal (MB4.0), North River (MB5.1), and South River (MB6.1) in the Towns of Marshfield and Scituate shall be closed to the harvest of shellfish in response to a Rockland sewer failure which occurred from 9:00 a.m. on January 26, 2023 to 9:00 a.m. on January 27, 2023. As a result, the status of the North and South River has been changed to **“CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING”** for 21 days or until further notification is made by the Division of Marine Fisheries, effective as of 12:00 p.m. on January 26, 2023.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A and 322 CMR section 7.01 (7), the status of the below-defined areas has been 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 area is prohibited.

CLASSIFICATION: CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

Status: Closed to Shellfishing

MB5.1 North River East

“The waters and flats of that portion of the North River in the Towns of Marshfield and Scituate, east of a line drawn across the North River at the Route 3A bridge, and west of a line drawn in a Southeasterly direction from the “No Shellfishing” sign at 42.166870° N / -70.728832° W to the “No Shellfishing” sign at 42.162305° N / -70.722909° W”

CLASSIFICATION: CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

Status: Closed to Shellfishing

MB6.1

South River East

“The waters and flats of that portion of the South River in the Towns of Marshfield and Scituate, east of a line drawn in a southeasterly direction from the “No Shellfishing” sign at 42.156999° N / -70.710420° W to the “No Shellfishing” sign at 42.156156° N / -70.708655° W, and east of a line drawn in a southerly direction from the “No Shellfishing” sign at 42.153028° N / -70.705524° W to the “No Shellfishing” sign at 42.149576° N / -70.705038° W, excluding the prohibited area of MB6.0”

CLASSIFICATION: APPROVED

Status: Closed to Shellfishing

MB4.0

Scituate South Coastal

“The waters and flats of that portion of Massachusetts Bay in the Town of Scituate, north of a line drawn due east from the Scituate/Marshfield Town Marker to the Plymouth County Line; south of a line drawn due east from the northernmost tip of First Cliff to the Plymouth County Line; easterly of a line drawn across the entrance of the New Inlet to the North and South Rivers; and westerly of the Plymouth County Line”

The previously defined areas MB4.0 (Scituate South Coastal), MB5.1 (North River East) and MB6.1 (South River East) shall remain in the closed status. The status will not automatically revert to open to shellfishing on February 16, 2023 but will remain closed until examined by the Division and notification is made that the area has been placed in the open status.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: P. Moran, C. Baker, OLE
J. Kennedy, DMF
R. Amidon, DFG
J. Hobill, DEP
FDA, DPH
M. Dimeo, Marshfield and Scituate Shellfish Constable