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Marine Fisheries Advisory

**PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS ON  
RED TIDE DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS**

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In response to the 2005 red tide disaster, Congress provided the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with \$2 million to “assist fishermen to recover from severe economic impacts due to fisheries disasters declared in 2005.” In January 2007, the Division of Marine Fisheries (*Marine Fisheries*) appointed a steering committee consisting of representatives from different sectors of the commercial shellfishing industry to provide input for selecting the most appropriate and equitable method for allocating these funds. Recommendations by the steering committee have been used to establish criteria for eligibility and to determine an equitable distribution method for lost income subsidy payouts.

*Marine Fisheries* will hold public meetings at the above times and places to provide information to shellfishermen who qualify for 2005 red tide disaster relief funds. These meetings have been scheduled to explain the application process to applicants and to describe the eligibility and distribution criteria for this program. Applications will be available at all meetings, and may be downloaded from our website at [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).

For additional information, please visit the *Marine Fisheries* website [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries) or contact Mark Rousseau at (978) 282-0308 x162.

Public Meeting Schedule, Locations & Directions

<b>March 19, 2007 , 7:00 PM.</b> <b>Gloucester High School</b> 32 Leslie O Johnson Rd. Gloucester , MA 01930	From the north: Take Rt. 128N towards Gloucester / Rockport. At the first rotary, take first right onto Washington Street . Follow Washington Street for 0.3 miles then turn right onto Centennial Ave. Follow Centennial Ave for 0.3 miles then turn right onto Leslie O. Johnson Road.
<b>March 20, 2007 ,</b>	Route 6 to Exit 11. Route 137 to Route 28. Take left onto Rt. 28. Take

<b>7:00PM.</b> <b>Chatham High School</b> 425 Crowell Rd. Chatham , MA 02633	left onto Crowell Road . School's on Left side of road.
<b>March 21, 2007 , 7:00 PM</b> <b>Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School</b> 220 Sandwich Road Bourne , MA 02532	From the North: Take Route 3 South to the Sagamore Rotary. Take the first right over the Sagamore Bridge (Route 6E). Take the first exit ramp. Turn left onto Sandwich Road . Upper Cape Tech is approximately 3.2 miles on the left, just past the Gallo Skating Rink.