March 19, 2020

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Due to Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP) toxin (also known as “Red Tide”) in shellfish the Division of Marine Fisheries is closing the entire below-defined Nauset Marsh System to the harvest of all shellfish.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A and 75, the status of the below-defined areas will be changed to "CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING", effective at 12:00 noon on March 19, 2020. Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish and the possession of shellfish, including carnivorous snails, from the below-defined areas is prohibited.

Under authority of 322 CMR 7.01(7) all permits issued thereunder are hereby conditioned to prohibit the taking, selling or possession of shellfish from the below-defined areas. These areas will remain closed until further notice.

AREAS CLOSED TO THE HARVEST OF ALL SHELLFISH

NAUSET SYSTEM OC:2-OC:6

OC:2 NAUSET HARBOR, EASTHAM/ORLEANS

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Nauset Harbor in the Towns of Eastham and Orleans, northerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Mill Pond in the Town of Orleans; southerly of a line drawn across the Middle Channel at the Eastham/Orleans town line; southerly of a line drawn across the southern mouth of the Hemenway River in the Town of Eastham; and easterly of a line drawn across the mouth of Town Cove.
OC:3 MILL POND, ORLEANS

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Mill Pond in the Town of Orleans, southerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Roberts Cove.

OC:4 TOWN COVE, ORLEANS/EASTHAM

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Town Cove in the Towns of Eastham and Orleans, southwesterly of a line drawn from Snow Point in the Town of Orleans to the western side of the mouth to the Hemenway River at Fort Hill in the Town of Eastham.

OC:5 NAUSET MARSH, EASTHAM

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Nauset Marsh in the Town of Eastham, northerly of a line drawn across the Middle Channel at the Eastham/Orleans Town Line; westerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Nauset Harbor; northerly of a line drawn across the mouth of the Hemenway River at Fort Hill in the Town of Eastham; and easterly of a line drawn across the entrance of Salt Pond in the Town of Eastham.

OC:6 SALT POND, EASTHAM

The waters, flats and all tributaries of Salt Pond in the Town of Eastham, westerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Salt Pond.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKiernan,
Acting Director

cc: P. Moran, DELE
    Jeff Kennedy, Tom Shields, DMF
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