



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lt. Governor

REBECCA L. TEPPER
Secretary

THOMAS K. O'SHEA
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

March 25, 2025

The Mayor of Newburyport
60 Pleasant Street
City Hall
Newburyport, MA 01950

Town of Salisbury Select Board
5 Beach Road
Town Hall
Salisbury, MA 01952

Town of Newbury Select Board
12 Kent Way
Town Hall
Byfield, MA 01922

Dear Mayor and Members of the Select Boards:

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, the shellfish growing area N2.1 and N2.6, classified as **CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED** in the City of Newburyport and the Towns of Newbury and Salisbury are "Closed to Shellfishing" due to excessive rain effective as of 9:00am Tuesday, March 25, 2025.

Under authority of Chapter 130, Sections 74A and 75, the below defined areas are closed to the taking of all shellfish except scallops harvested for the adductor muscle only. All permits issued under authority of 322 CMR 7.01 and 7.02 are hereby conditioned in accordance with 322 CMR 7.01 (7) to prohibit digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish and the possession or sale of shellfish from the below defined areas.

CLASSIFICATION: CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED

Status: Closed to Shellfishing

Except for harvest of scallops for adductor muscle only

N2.1

Merrimack River Estuary & Northern Plum Island River

"The waters, flats, and tributaries of the Merrimack River estuary in the City of Newburyport and the Towns of Newbury and Salisbury within the following metes and bounds: south of a line drawn due east from the southeast corner of Allen Creek at the confluence with Black Rock Creek, and south of lines drawn across the mouths of Middle and Morrill Creeks; east of a line drawn due north from the lighted beacon No. "18" to the bank of the Merrimack River; north of a line running from light No. "18" to buoy No. "15" then to buoy No. "8"; east and south of a line drawn from buoy No. "8" to the gunners blind on the northeast corner of Woodbridge Island; east of line drawn from the bus stop on Water Street near Goodwin Avenue in Newburyport to the westernmost point of Woodbridge Island; north of a line drawn across the mouth of the Basin from 53 Harbor Street to the old stone breakwater at the northeast corner of Old Point, and north of a line drawn due east from the northeastern most corner of Pine Island Creek at the confluence with Plum Island River to the east bank of the Plum Island River".


N2.6

Basin Mooring Area

“The waters, flats, and tributaries of the Merrimack River estuary in the City of Newburyport and the Town of Newbury south of a line drawn across the mouth of the Basin from 53 Harbor Street to the old stone breakwater at the northeast corner of Old Point.”

On Sunday, March 30, 2025, at sunrise, these areas will revert to an open status unless prior notification by the Division indicates the closure must be extended. Harvest within these Conditionally Restricted shellfish growing areas is subject to the limitations of its classification, Conditional Area Management Plan, and predetermined harvest schedule.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: C. Mason, C. Baker, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, W. Castonguay, DMF
S. King, D. Boyer, K. Divris, DEP
FDA
DPH
P. Hogg, Newburyport
W. Van de Stadt, Salisbury
R. Campo, Newbury