



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 28, 2024

Town of Braintree Select Board
Town Hall
Braintree, MA 02184

Town of Hingham Select Board
Town Hall
Hingham, MA 02043

Town of Hull Select Board
Town Hall
Hull, MA 02045

The Honorable Mayor of Quincy
City Hall
Quincy, MA 02169

The Honorable Mayor of Weymouth
City Hall
Weymouth, MA 02189

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A, and 75 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the below-defined shellfish classification areas in the Cities of Quincy and Weymouth and the Towns of Braintree, Hingham, and Hull, shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish in response to multiple sanitary sewer discharges in the Town of Braintree ending on March 24, 2024. As a result, the status of GBH8 “Weymouth Back River” and GBH9 “Weymouth Fore River” has been changed to “Closed to Shellfishing” effective as of 9:30 a.m. Sunday March 24, 2024.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, 75 and 322 CMR section 7.01 (7), the below defined “CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED” classification area is closed to the harvest of shellfish, except for scallops harvested for the adductor muscle only. 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, except for scallops harvested for the adductor muscle only.

CLASSIFICATION: CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED

Status: Closed to Shellfishing

Except for harvest of scallops for adductor muscle only

GBH8

Weymouth Back River

“The waters, flats, and tributaries of Weymouth Back River in the towns of Weymouth and Hingham west of a line from the southernmost extremity of Slate Island due south to the house on 93 Kimball Beach Road, south of a line drawn from the westernmost extremity of Slate

Island to the southeasternmost extremity of Grape Island, and east of a line drawn from the southernmost extremity of Grape Island to the northernmost extremity of Lower Neck.”

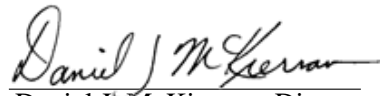
GBH9

Weymouth Fore River

“The waters, flats, and all tributaries of the Weymouth Fore River in the town of Weymouth and the city of Quincy, west of a line drawn from the southernmost extremity of Grape Island to the northernmost extremity of Lower Neck, south of a line drawn from the westernmost extremity of Grape Island to southeasternmost extremity of Prince Head on Peddocks Island, and southeast of a line drawn from the southwesternmost extremity of Peddocks Island to the northernmost extremity of Nut Island in Quincy.”

These shellfish growing areas shall remain in the “Closed to Shellfishing” status until April 15, 2024, at sunrise, at a minimum, and the status will not automatically revert to “Open to Shellfishing” until examined by the Division and notification is made that the areas have been placed in the open status. Harvest within these Conditionally Restricted shellfish growing areas is subject to the limitations of its classification and Conditional Area Management Plan, and subject to scheduling of harvest activities by the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries Shellfish Purification Plant. Depuration harvest within these areas continues to be suspended due to critical infrastructure failure that has shut down depuration operations at the Shellfish Purification Plant.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: P. Moran, C. Baker, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, W. Castonguay, DMF
S. King, D. Boyer, K. Divris, DEP
FDA
DPH
Shellfish Constables of Hingham, Hull, Quincy, and Weymouth