



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

March 28, 2025

Town of Aquinnah Selectboard
Town Hall
65 State Road
Aquinnah, MA 02535

Ladies & Gentlemen:

In response to the Town of Aquinnah's petition for an extended bay scallop season the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) conducted a bay scallop resource investigation on March 26, 2025. DMF has determined that in proportion to immature seed bay scallops there is an abundance of adult bay scallops that will not be harvested prior to the termination of the normal bay scallop season on March 31, 2025. Furthermore, it is believed that most of these adult scallops are unlikely to live long enough to spawn again this coming summer. Therefore, under authority of MGL Chapter 130, Section 73, **the bay scallop season in the Menemsha Inlet and Pond (V2) shellfish growing area in the Town of Aquinnah shall be extended through April 30, 2025.** Permission is hereby granted to the Selectboard to permit the taking of bay scallops during the extended season.

No seed scallops as defined in MGL Chapter 130, Section 70 and 322 CMR, Section 6.11, may be taken under any circumstances without permission of the Director of Marine Fisheries. Bay scallops landed during this extended season may be inspected by DMF Shellfish Program personnel and municipal shellfish control personnel to determine condition and legal size.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

Cc: C. Mason, C. Baker, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, M. Camisa, DMF
DPH
B. Vanderhoop, Aquinnah Shellfish Constable