



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lt. Governor

REBECCA L. TEPPER
Secretary

THOMAS K. O'SHEA
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

March 31, 2025

Town of Mashpee Selectboard
Town Hall
Mashpee, MA 02649

Town of Barnstable Selectboard
Town Hall
Barnstable, MA 02601

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has re-examined the waters of Mashpee River & Shoestring Bay (SC20.1 and SC20.3) in the Towns of Mashpee and Barnstable, classified as "CONDITIONALLY APPROVED" and in the "Open to Shellfishing" status based on seasonal water quality changes. As a result of this examination, the Division has determined that the below defined areas no longer meet the established criteria for the harvest of shellfish and has changed the status to **"Closed to Shellfishing" as of sunrise on April 1, 2025.**

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 area.

CLASSIFICATION: CONDITIONALLY APPROVED

SEASONAL STATUS CHANGE

Status: Closed to Shellfishing

April 1 - October 31

All Dates Inclusive

SC20.1

Mashpee River


"The waters, flats, and all tributaries of that portion of the Mashpee River in the Town of Mashpee west of a line drawn south from the southernmost point of Mashpee Neck (41.59686°, -70.46697°) to Punkhorn Point (41.59461°, -70.46633°) and south of a line drawn from the "NO SHELLFISHING" sign at Buccaneer Way westerly across the river to the "NO SHELLFISHING" sign on the opposite shore (41.60163°, -70.47325°)."

SC20.3
Shoestring Bay

“The waters, flats, and all tributaries of that portion of Shoestring Bay in the Towns of Mashpee and Barnstable, easterly of a line drawn south from the southernmost point of Mashpee Neck (41.59686°, -70.46697°) to Punkhorn Point (41.59461°, -70.46633°); northerly of a line drawn from Punkhorn Point (41.59309°, -70.46590°) to Ryefield Point (41.59614°N, -70.46209°) and southerly of a line drawn from Simons Narrows Road in the Town of Mashpee to the "Public Way to Water" in the Town of Barnstable.”

The preceding CONDITIONALLY APPROVED areas, SC20.1 and SC20.3, shall remain in the closed status during the inclusive dates. The status will not automatically revert to “Open to Shellfishing” on November 1, 2025, but will remain closed until examined by the Division and notification is made that the area has been placed in the open status.

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: C. Mason, C. Baker, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, DMF
J. Hobill, DEP
FDA, DPH
C. Avis, Mashpee Shellfish Constable
A. Croteau, Barnstable Shellfish Constable