



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400, Boston, MA 02114
p: (617) 626-1520 | f: (617) 626-1509
www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

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Secretary

RONALD S. AMIDON
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

March 7, 2023

Mayor of Gloucester
Gloucester City Hall
9 Dale Ave
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dear Mayor Verga,

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the below defined “CONDITIONALLY APPROVED” shellfish classification area, N9.6 “Back Creek and Lower Flat” in the City of Gloucester, no longer meets the established criteria for the harvest of shellfish due to an oil spill on March 7, 2023. As a precaution, the status of the below defined area will be changed to “CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING” effective as of 10:00 am, March 7, 2023.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, section 74A and 322 CMR sections 7.01 (7), the status of the below defined area has been changed to “CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING”. 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.

CLASSIFICATION: CONDITIONALLY APPROVED
STATUS: CLOSED TO SHELLFISHING

N9.6

Back Creek and Lower Flat

The waters and flats of the Gloucester shoreline known as Back Creek and Lower Flat, north of a line drawn from the house at #50 Vine Street west to the first stone-and-wood pier at #6 Riverside and south of the southernmost bridge abutment of the Washington Street bridge at the mouth of Goose Cove, excluding N9.20, “Wheeler’s Point”.

The above area shall remain in the closed status until examined by the Division of Marine Fisheries and notification is made that the area has been placed in the OPEN status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Daniel J. McKiernan
Director

cc: R. Amidon, DFG
P. Moran, C. Baker, MEP
J. Kennedy, DMF
S. King, DEP
FDA
DPH
P. Seminara, Gloucester Shellfish Constable