



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

April 22, 2025

Town of Westport Selectboard
Town Hall
Westport, MA 02790

Ladies & Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that a portion of the East Branch of the Westport River shellfish growing area, Halfmoon Flat (BB4.21), no longer meets the established criteria for a status of "Open to Shellfishing" due to the transplant of contaminated quahogs from the Taunton River (Permit #186843). The status of this area will be **"Closed to Shellfishing" as of sunrise on Tuesday, April 22, 2025.**

Therefore, the Division of Marine Fisheries has changed the status of the below defined area to "Closed to Shellfishing" to prohibit the taking of shellfish until subsequent determination by this office reveals that the shellfish are safe for human consumption.

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, 75, and 322 CMR 7.01 (7), digging, harvesting, or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest, collect or the possession of shellfish from the below defined area is prohibited.

CLASSIFICATION: APPROVED
SHELLFISH TRANSPLANT CLOSURE
Status: Closed to Shellfishing

BB4.21
Halfmoon Flat

" The waters and flats of that portion of the East Branch southeast of a line drawn from the "NO SHELLFISHING" sign at the southern abutment of the Route 88 Bridge (41.51576°, -71.06698°) to the "NO SHELLFISHING" sign on the marsh at the eastern entrance to Horseneck Channel (41.51498°, -71.05469°)."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: C. Mason, C. Baker, MEP
C. Petitpas, B. Glenn, DMF
J. Hobill, DEP
FDA, DPH
C. Leonard, Westport Shellfish Constable