



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)



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THOMAS K. O'SHEA  
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN  
Director

May 18, 2023

Town of Chatham Selectboard  
Town Hall  
Chatham, MA 02633

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that **bivalve shellfish** from areas **SC52S and SC52N**, defined below, **no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP))** from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium* (spp.) in excess of established standards. Areas in Pleasant Bay (**SC53 through SC64**) remain **closed** to all shellfish harvesting. **All areas SC52S through SC64 remain closed to the harvesting of carnivorous snails.**

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, section 74A, the PSP closures for **bivalve shellfish** issued on April 14, 2023, **will be rescinded at sunrise on Friday, May 19, 2023**, in areas SC52S and SC52N. Bivalve shellfish in areas currently classified as APPROVED and in the “open” status may now be harvested for direct human consumption subject to local rules and regulations under authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, section 52. Similarly, those areas classified as CONDITIONALLY APPROVED and in the “open” status are subject to the classification conditions. All areas SC52S through SC64 remain closed to the harvesting of all carnivorous snails.

**Status: Open to Bivalve Shellfish Harvesting.**  
**These areas remain CLOSED to the harvesting of all carnivorous snails.**

### SC52S Chatham Harbor - South

"The waters, flats and all tributaries of that portion of Chatham Harbor in the Town of Chatham, easterly of a line drawn from the south end of Morris Island to the north tip of Monomoy Island; north of a line drawn from the north tip of Monomoy Island to the southern end of South Beach; and south of a line drawn along the south side of the South Beach Bar extending from Chatham Lighthouse to the New Inlet."

SC52N

**Chatham Harbor - North**

"The waters, flats and all tributaries of that portion of Chatham Harbor in the Town of Chatham, north of a line drawn along the northern edge of the South Beach Bar extending from Chatham Lighthouse to the New Inlet; west of a line drawn across the New Inlet; easterly of a line drawn from Allen Point to the southeast tip of Strong Island; and southerly of a line drawn across the northern end of the bay along the Chatham/Orleans Town Line from the north tip of Strong Island to Nauset Beach."

Sincerely,



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Daniel J. McKiernan, Director  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: P. Moran, C. Baker, OLE  
J. Kennedy, DMF  
T. O'Shea, DFG  
J. Hobill, DEP  
FDA, DPH  
R. Gagne, Chatham Shellfish Constable