



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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



MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

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Lt. Governor

REBECCA L. TEPPER
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THOMAS K. O'SHEA
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

May 27, 2025

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

Select Board
Rockport Town Hall
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Due to a bloom of the phytoplankton *Alexandrium* spp. (also known as “Red Tide”) and **Paralytic Shellfish Poison (PSP)** toxin, the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is issuing a biotoxin closure notice of shellfish growing areas **N8** through **N12** in the City of Gloucester and Town of Rockport.

Therefore, under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, the status of the below-defined areas will be changed to **“Closed to Shellfishing” effective immediately**. Digging, harvesting, or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish and the possession of shellfish, including carnivorous snails, from the below-identified areas is prohibited.

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 areas identified below. These areas will remain closed until further notice.

AREAS CLOSED TO THE HARVEST OF ALL SHELLFISH

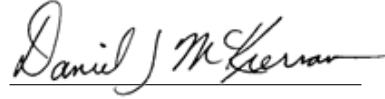
N8 – N12

The waters, flats, and tributaries in shellfish growing areas N8, N9, N10, N11, and N12 in the City of Gloucester and Town of Rockport.

Individual shellfish growing area definition boundaries are mapped on the Division’s website at [Shellfish classification areas | Mass.gov](http://Shellfish%20classification%20areas%20Mass.gov).

These shellfish growing areas shall remain in the “Closed to Shellfishing” status and will not automatically revert to “Open to Shellfishing” but will remain closed until examined by the Division and notification is made that the areas have been placed in the open status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: C. Mason, C. Baker, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, W. Castonguay DMF
J. Hobill, S. King, D. Boyer, K. Divris, DEP
FDA
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R. Visnick, Gloucester Shellfish Constable
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