

Paul J. Diodati Director Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries 251 Causeway Street, Suite 400 Boston, MA 02114 (617) 626.1520 Fax (617) 626.1509



Deval Patrick Governor Ian Bowles Secretary Mary B. Griffin Commissioner

June 18, 2008

To the selectmen of the following towns:

Orleans, Chatham and Harwich

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that Blue mussels, *Mytilus edulis* from the below-defined area contain Paralytic Shellfish Poison toxin (also known as "Red Tide") from the dinoflagellate <u>Alexandrium (spp.)</u> in excess of the established standards.

Under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A and 75, the belowdefined area is closed to the harvest of Blue mussels until subsequent examination shows that these shellfish are safe for human consumption (crustaceans such as lobsters and crabs are not included in this closure).

The below-defined area is **CLOSED TO THE TAKING OF BLUE MUSSELS.** Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect Blue mussels and the possession of Blue mussels, from the below-defined area 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 Blue mussels from the below defined areas.

AREA CLOSED TO THE HARVEST OF BLUE MUSSELS

"The waters, flats and all tributaries within Pleasant Bay (SC:52N to SC:64) in the Towns of Orleans, Harwich and Chatham."

Sincerely,

Paul J. Diodati Director

c: J. Hanlon, R., K. Dolan, DELE D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, D. Whittaker, DMF WPC, DEP FDA DPH Constables of the above-listed cities and towns

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