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Division of Marine Fisheries

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Secretary

Mary B. Griffin
Commissioner

June 19, 2014

Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
30 Martin Street
Essex, MA. 01929

Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
25 Green Street
Ipswich, MA. 01938

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

Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
25 High Road
Newbury, MA. 01951

Board of Selectmen
139 Main Street
P.O. Box 275
Rowley, MA. 01969

Ladies & Gentlemen,

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that Razor clams (*Ensis directus*) and soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) from areas N4 and N7 defined below no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison-(PSP)) from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium* (*spp.*) in excess of established standards. Area N4, Plum Island Sound, in the towns of Ipswich, Newbury, and Rowley and area N7, Essex Bay, in the City of Gloucester and towns of Essex and Ipswich, remain closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallop.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, sections 74A and 75 and 322 CMR sections 7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closure for Razor clams (*Ensis directus*) and Soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) enacted on June 4, 2014 will be rescinded at sunrise on June 19, 2014 in areas N4, Plum Island Sound, in the towns of Ipswich, Newbury, and Rowley and N7, Essex Bay, in the towns of Essex, Gloucester and Ipswich. Razor calms (*Ensis directus*) and Soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) 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. Area N4 and N7 remain closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallop.

N4 PLUM ISLAND SOUND

Status: OPEN to the harvest of Razor clams (*Ensis directus*) and Soft shell Clams (*Mya arenaria*) ONLY. The area remains closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallops. All previous bacterial closures remain in effect.

OVER

**The waters, flats and all tributaries of Plum Island Sound
in the towns of Ipswich, Newbury and Rowley.**

N7 ESSEX BAY

Status: OPEN to the harvest of Razor clams (*Ensis directus*) and Soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) ONLY. The area remains closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallops. All previous bacterial closures remain in effect.

**The waters, flats and all tributaries of Essex Bay
in the City of Gloucester and the towns of Essex and Ipswich.**

Sincerely,

Paul J. Diodati
Director

cc: C. Baker, L. Roberts, R. Thurlow, C. Kalkwarf, M. Griffin, DELE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, J. Kennedy, DMF
WPC, DEP
FDA
DPH
Bill Novak, Essex Shellfish Constable
Dave Sargent, Gloucester Shellfish Constable
Scott Lepreste, Ipswich Shellfish Constable
Charles Colby, Newbury Constable
John Grundstrom, Rowley Constable