

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 20, 2008

To the selectmen of the following towns:

Orleans, Chatham and Harwich

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Due to **Paralytic Shellfish Poison** (PSP) toxin (also known as "Red Tide") in shellfish and reported elevated phytoplankton levels of the dinoflagellate <u>Alexandrium (spp.)</u>, the Division of Marine Fisheries has closed the below-defined Pleasant Bay System.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A and 75, the status of the below-defined areas have been 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-defined 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 below-defined areas.

## AREAS CLOSED TO THE HARVEST OF ALL SHELLFISH

"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

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