



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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



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DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN  
Director

June 1, 2023

Town of Chatham Selectboard  
Town Hall  
Chatham, MA 02633

Town of Orleans Selectboard  
Town Hall  
Orleans, MA 02653

Town of Harwich Selectboard  
Town Hall  
Harwich, MA 02646

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that certain species of bivalve shellfish from growing areas in Pleasant Bay **SC53 through SC64**, 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**) will remain **closed to the harvesting of softshell clams (*Mya arenaria*) and all species of carnivorous snails.**

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, section 74A, the PSP closures for bivalve shellfish in areas SC53 through SC64 issued on April 14, 2023, **will be rescinded for all bivalve shellfish except softshell clams at sunrise on Friday, June 2, 2023.** All areas SC53 through SC64 **remain closed to the harvesting of all carnivorous snails in addition to softshell clams.** 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.

**Status: Open to Bivalve Shellfish Harvesting with Following Exception.**  
**These areas remain CLOSED to the harvesting of softshell clams and all carnivorous snails.**

**All of the Pleasant Bay system including shellfish growing areas SC53, SC54, SC55, SC56, SC57, SC58, SC59, SC60, SC61, SC62, SC63 and SC64.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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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  
N. Sears, Orleans Shellfish Constable  
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R. Gagne, Chatham Shellfish Constable