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Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.
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Mary B. Griffin
Commissioner

June 24, 2011

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

The Honorable, Carolyn A. Kirk,

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) from area N9 defined below no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison-(PSP)) from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium (spp.)* in excess of established standards. Area N9, the Annisquam River, in Gloucester, remains closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallop.

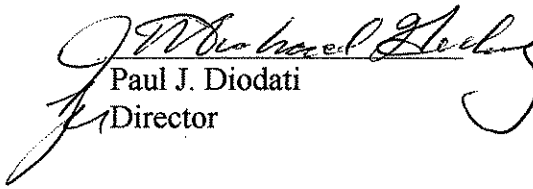
Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, sections 74A and 75 and 322 CMR sections 7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closure for soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) enacted on May 23, 2011 will be rescinded at sunrise on June 25, 2011 in area N9, the Annisquam River in Gloucester. 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 N9 remains closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallop.

N9 ANNISQUAM RIVER

Status: OPEN to the harvest of Softshell 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 the Annisquam River in the City of Gloucester.

Sincerely,


Paul J. Diodati
Director

cc: A. Gross, J. Tulik, DELE
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, J. Kennedy, DMF
WPC, DEP
FDA
DPH
Dave Sargent, Gloucester Shellfish Constable