



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



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Director

June 30, 2025

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

Select Board
Rockport Town Hall
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Select Board
Ipswich Town Hall
25 Green Street
Ipswich, MA 01938

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that bivalve shellfish from areas N8 – N12, defined below, do not contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison - (PSP)) from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium* (spp.) in excess of established standards. These areas remain closed to the harvesting of ocean quahogs and all carnivorous snails.

Therefore, under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, section 74A, the PSP closure issued on May 27, 2025, will be **rescinded at sunrise on Tuesday, July 1, 2025**, in the growing areas N8 – N12. Shellfish in areas currently classified as “CONDITIONALLY APPROVED” shall revert to the status dictated by the Conditional Area Management Plan. Bivalve shellfish may now be harvested for direct human consumption subject to local rules and regulations under authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, section 52. Areas classified as “PROHIBITED” shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption, except for the harvest of scallops for adductor muscle only.

STATUS: OPEN TO THE HARVEST OF SHELLFISH

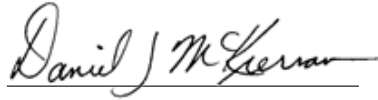
These areas remain CLOSED to the harvesting of all carnivorous snails and ocean quahogs.

N8 – N12

The waters, flats, and tributaries in shellfish growing areas N8, N9, N10, N11, and N12 in the City of Gloucester, Town of Rockport, and Town of Ipswich.

Individual shellfish growing area definition boundaries are mapped on the Division's website at [Shellfish classification areas | Mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries/shellfish-classification-areas).

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

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