

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

July 1, 2008

To the selectmen of the following towns: Orleans, Chatham and Harwich

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that **Blue mussels** *Mytilus edulis* from the below-defined areas **no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison-(PSP))** from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium (spp.)* in excess of established standards. **These areas remain closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish.**

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74A and 75 and 322 CMR sections 7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closures for Blue mussels on June 18, 2008 **will be rescinded immediately** in the below-defined areas. Blue mussels 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 CONDTIONALLY APPROVED and in the "open" status are subject to the classification conditions. **Harvesting of all other shellfish from the below-defined areas shall remain prohibited until such time as the Division of Marine Fisheries determines that they no longer contain PSP.**

Status: Open to Harvesting of <u>Blue mussels only</u>. These areas remain closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish.

AREA OPEN TO THE HARVEST OF BLUE MUSSELS ONLY

"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

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

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