



Paul J. Diodati  
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Division of Marine Fisheries  
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Deval Patrick  
Governor  
Ian Bowles  
Secretary  
Mary B.  
Griffin  
Commissioner

July 9, 2008

Mayors and Boards of Selectmen of the following cities and towns: Essex, Gloucester, Ipswich, Manchester, Newbury, Newburyport, Rockport, Rowley, and Salisbury

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that Blue mussels *Mytilus edulis* and Soft-shell clams *Mya arenaria* from the below-defined area **no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison - (PSP))** from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium (spp.)* in excess of established standards. **This area 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CMR sections 7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closures for Blue mussels and Soft-shell clams on May 15, 2008 **will be rescinded at sunrise on Thursday July 10, 2008** in the below-defined areas. Blue mussels and Soft-shell clams in areas currently classified as APPROVED and in the "open" status **may be harvested on Thursday July 10, 2008** 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 or CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED and in the "open" status are subject to the classification conditions. All previous bacterial closures remain in effect. **Harvesting of all other shellfish, carnivorous snails, whole scallops or roe-on scallops from the below-defined area shall remain prohibited until such time as the Division of Marine Fisheries determines that they no longer contain PSP.**

**Status: Open to Shellfish Harvesting of Blue mussels and Soft-shell clams only. These areas remains closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallop.**

The waters, flats and all tributaries in above-listed cities and towns and those marine waters managed by the Commonwealth from the New Hampshire/Massachusetts state boundary to the Gloucester/Manchester-by-the-Sea municipal line, areas N1 through N14.

Sincerely,

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Paul J. Diodati  
Director

cc: J. Hanlon, R. Arduini, K. Dolan, J. Tulik, G. Duncan, OLE  
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, D. Whittaker, J. Kennedy DMF  
WPC, DEP  
FDA  
DPH  
Constables of the above-listed cities and towns