



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Marine Fisheries
(617) 626-1520 | mass.gov/MarineFisheries



Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberly Driscoll
Lt. Governor

Rebecca L. Tepper
Secretary

Thomas K. O'Shea
Commissioner

Daniel J. McKiernan
Director

July 9, 2026

The Honorable Selectboards and Mayor of the following Commonwealth of Massachusetts coastal Municipalities: Newbury, Rowley, Ipswich, Essex, Gloucester and Rockport

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the emergency closure in growing areas N4, N5, N6, N7, N8, N9, N10, N11, N12, N13 and N14 in the Towns of Newbury, Rowley, Ipswich, Essex, Rockport and the City of Gloucester due to the sanitary sewer discharge in the City of Haverhill may be rescinded. While the emergency closure is lifted in these areas, growing areas N4, N7 and N9 in the towns of Ipswich, Essex, Newbury, Rowley and the City of Gloucester remain in the "closed status due to routine rainfall closures consistent with their Conditional Area Management Plans (CAMPs). These areas will reopen when the individual reopening criteria dictated in their respective CAMPs are met.

Therefore, the areas identified below will revert to their former status, prior to the emergency closure, or in the case of **CONDITIONALLY APPROVED** areas, acquire the status of their Conditional Area Management Plan criteria, and local rules and regulations under authority of MGL Chapter 130, section 52, **effective at 1:00 PM on Thursday, July 9, 2026.**

All other growing areas subject to the emergency closure due to the sanitary sewer discharge in the City of Haverhill (N1, N2 and N3) shall remain closed until further notice

Areas classified as **PROHIBITED** shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption except for the harvest of scallop adductor mussels only.

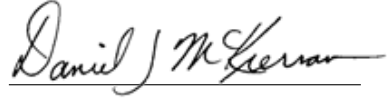
Under authority of 322 CMR 7.01 (7) all permits issued thereunder are hereby conditioned to permit the taking, selling or possession of shellfish from the areas listed below.

**EMERGENCY SEWAGE CLOSURE RESCINDED FOR AREAS IDENTIFIED BELOW:
Status Subject to Conditional Area Management Plan criteria where applicable including ongoing rainfall closures in areas N4, N7 and N9**

The waters, flats and all tributaries of the following Shellfish Growing Areas: N4, N5, N6, N7, N8, N9, N10, N11, N12, N13, N14 in the Towns of Newbury, Rowley, Ipswich, Essex Rockport and the City of Gloucester.

Individual shellfish growing area definition boundaries are mapped on the Division's website at [Shellfish classification areas | Mass.gov](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: J. Monaghan, J. Chapin, MEP
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, W. Castonguay, DMF
S. King, D. Boyer, K. Divris, DEP
FDA
DPH
Shellfish Constables of the above Cities and Towns