



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



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Daniel J. McKiernan
Director

July 10, 2026

Town of Eastham Selectboard
Town Hall
Eastham, MA 02642

Town of Orleans Selectboard
Town Hall
Orleans, MA 02653

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that **bivalve shellfish** from growing area OC6, defined below, **do not contain biotoxins associated with Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP)** from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium* (spp.) in excess of established standards. All growing areas in the Nauset System, OC2 through OC6, remain **closed to the harvesting of all species of carnivorous snails**.

Therefore, under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, section 74A, the PSP closure for **bivalve shellfish** issued on May 6, 2026, **will be rescinded at sunrise on Saturday, July 11, 2026**, in growing area **OC6, Salt Pond** in Eastham. 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. The contaminated relay area within Salt Pond will remain in the closed status.

Status: Open to Bivalve Shellfish Harvesting.

This area remains CLOSED to the harvesting of **all species of carnivorous snails**.

**OC6
Salt Pond, Eastham**

"The waters, flats, and all tributaries of Salt Pond in the Town of Eastham, westerly of a line drawn across the mouth of Salt Pond River."

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

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

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