



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 11, 2008

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

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that **bivalve shellfish** from areas **SC:53 through SC:64** defined below **no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison-(PSP))** from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium (spp.)* in excess of established standards. Area **SC:52N, Chatham Harbor North**, remains **closed** to all shellfish harvesting except Blue mussels. All areas SC:52N through SC:64 remain closed to the harvesting of **Moon snails (*Polinices duplicatus* and *Lunatia heros*)**.

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75 and 322 CMR sections 7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closures for **bivalve shellfish** on June 20, 2008 **will be rescinded immediately** in areas SC:53 through SC:64 (**area SC:52N, Chatham Harbor North**, remains **closed** to all shellfish harvesting except Blue mussels). Bivalve shellfish 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 CONDITIONALLY APPROVED and in the "open" status are subject to the classification conditions. All areas SC:52N through SC:64 remain closed to the harvesting of **Moon snails (*Polinices duplicatus* and *Lunatia heros*)**.

Status: Open to Bivalve Shellfish Harvesting

These areas remain closed to the harvesting of **Moon snails (*Polinices duplicatus* and *Lunatia heros*)**.

PLEASANT BAY NORTH SC:53 -SC:64

"The waters, flats and all tributaries within Pleasant Bay in the Towns of Orleans, Harwich and Chatham west of a line drawn from Allen Point to the southeast tip of Strong Island and northerly of a line drawn across the northern end of the bay along the Chatham /Orleans Town Line from the north tip of Strong Island to Nauset Beach."

Status: Closed to the harvest of all bivalve shellfish except Blue mussels

This area remains closed to the harvesting of **Moon snails** (*Polinices duplicatus* and *Lunatia heros*).

CHATHAM HARBOR NORTH SC:52N

"The waters, flats and all tributaries of that portion of Chatham Harbor in the Town of Chatham, north of a line drawn along the northern edge of the South Beach Bar extending from Chatham Lighthouse to the New Inlet; west of a line drawn across the New Inlet; easterly of a line drawn from Allen Point to the southeast tip of Strong Island; and southerly of a line drawn across the northern end of the bay along the Chatham/Orleans Town Line from the north tip of Strong Island to Nauset Beach."

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