



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 21, 2026

Members of the Select Boards and Honorable Mayor of the following Commonwealth of Massachusetts coastal municipalities: Salisbury, Newburyport, Newbury, Rowley, and Ipswich

Dear Mayor and Members of the Select Boards:

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 N1, N2 and N3 in the City of Newburyport and the Towns of Salisbury, Newbury, Rowley, and Ipswich, due to the sanitary sewer discharge in the City of Haverhill may be rescinded.

Therefore, the areas identified below will revert to their former status, prior to the emergency closure, or in the case of CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED 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 as of sunrise on Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

Areas classified as PROHIBITED shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption except for the harvest of sea 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EMERGENCY SEWAGE CLOSURE RESCINDED FOR AREAS IDENTIFIED BELOW: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 rainfall closures in area N2

N1

Salisbury Beach

"The shoreline of the Town of Salisbury from the New Hampshire state line to the northernmost breakwater at the entrance of the Merrimack River, to include the waters and flats of the Salisbury marshes north of Rte. 1A to the Massachusetts/New Hampshire border."

N2

Merrimack River

"The waters, flats and tributaries of the Merrimack River in the City of Newburyport and the Towns of Newbury and Salisbury."

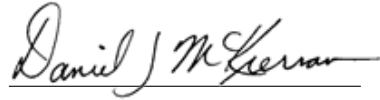
N3

Plum Island

“The eastern shoreline of Plum Island in the City of Newburyport and the Towns of Ipswich, Newbury, and Rowley.”

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 the name.

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