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# Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Paul J. Diodati  
Director

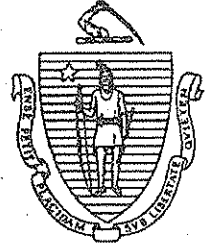
## Division of Marine Fisheries

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Deval Patrick  
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Timothy P. Murray

Lt. Governor

Richard K.

Sullivan, Jr.

Secretary

Mary B. Griffin

Commissioner

July 5, 2011

Board of Selectmen  
Town Hall  
30 Martin Street  
Essex, MA. 01929

Board of Selectmen  
Town Hall  
25 Green Street  
Ipswich, MA. 01938

Mayor of Gloucester  
City Hall  
9 Dale Avenue  
Gloucester, MA. 01930

Ladies & Gentlemen,

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) from area N7 defined below no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison-(PSP)) from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium (spp.)* in excess of established standards. Area N7, Essex Bay, in the City of Gloucester and towns of Essex and Ipswich, 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7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closure for soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) enacted on May 23, 2011 will be rescinded at sunrise on July 6, 2011 in area N7, Essex Bay in Essex, Gloucester and Ipswich. Soft shell clams (*Mya arenaria*) 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. Area N7 remains closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallop.

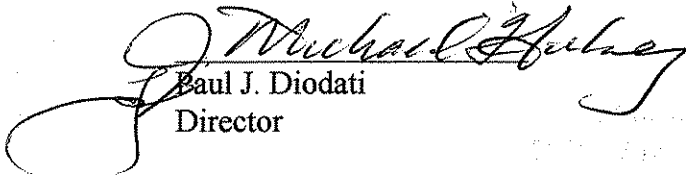
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**N7 ESSEX BAY**

**Status: OPEN to the harvest of Softshell Clams (*Mya arenaria*) ONLY.** The area remains closed to the harvesting of all other shellfish and carnivorous snails with the exception of the adductor of the sea scallops. All previous bacterial closures remain in effect.

**The waters, flats and all tributaries of Essex Bay  
in the City of Gloucester and the towns of Essex and Ipswich.**

Sincerely,

  
Paul J. Diodati  
Director

cc: A. Gross, J. Tulik, DELE  
D. McKiernan, M. Hickey, J. Kennedy, DMF  
WPC, DEP  
FDA  
DPH  
Bill Novak, Essex Shellfish Constable  
Dave Sargent, Gloucester Shellfish Constable  
Scott Lepreste, Ipswich Shellfish Constable