

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | www.mass.gov/marinefisheries



Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL Lt. Governor

REBECCA L. TEPPER Secretary

THOMAS K. O'SHEA Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN Director

August 1, 2025

Town of Edgartown Selectboard Town Hall Edgartown, MA 02539

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has notified the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) of an outbreak of *Campylobacter sp.* illnesses linked to oysters harvested from the Katama Bay (V20) shellfish growing area in the town of Edgartown. Oysters linked to five confirmed illnesses were harvested between July 7th and 17th, 2025 and consumed raw between July 12th and July 21st, 2025.

Under the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Model Ordinance, when shellfish are implicated in an illness outbreak and there is no evidence of illegal harvest from a closed area or post-harvest contamination the Shellfish Control Authority must immediately place the harvest area in the closed status. Therefore, the status of Katama Bay (V20) was changed to "Closed to Shellfishing" for oysters only effective at 1:00 PM on August 1, 2025.

Under authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, section 74A, the status of the belowdefined area has been changed to "Closed to Shellfishing" to the taking of oysters. Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect oysters and the possession of oysters from the below-defined area is prohibited.

Under authority of 322 CMR 7.01(7) all permits issued thereunder are hereby conditioned to prohibit the taking, selling or possession of oysters from the below-defined area.

V20 Katama Bay

"The waters and flats of Katama Bay south of a line drawn from the Billy Dinsmore property to the northern entrance of Caleb Pond, including Caleb Pond."

The preceding area will remain closed until examined by the Division and notification is made that the area has been placed in the open status.

DPH and DMF are continuing to investigate the shellfish growing area conditions of Katama Bay (V20) as well as the harvest and handling practices associated with the implicated oysters. Please contact Alex Boeri (alex.boeri@mass.gov) for additional information.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director MA Division of Marine Fisheries

CC: J. Monaghan, C. Baker, MEP

R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, M. Camisa, W. Castonguay,

M. Moore, E. Hickey, DPH

R. Morrison, Edgartown Shellfish Constable

U.S.FDA

Massachusetts Aquaculture Association