



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

(617) 626-1520 | [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries)



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REBECCA L. TEPPER  
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DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN  
Director

August 19, 2025

The Mayor of Newburyport  
60 Pleasant Street  
City Hall  
Newburyport, MA 01950

Town of Salisbury Select Board  
5 Beach Road  
Town Hall  
Salisbury, MA 01952

Town of Newbury Select Board  
12 Kent Way  
Town Hall  
Byfield, MA 01922

Dear Mayor and Members of the Select Boards:

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that the below defined shellfish classification areas N2.1 "Merrimack River Estuary & Northern Plum Island River" and N2.6 "Basin Mooring Area" which were closed on August 14, 2025, now meet the standards for the classification of **CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED** and may be placed into the **OPEN** status for depuration.

Therefore, under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, sections 74, 74A and 75, and 322 CMR sections 7.02 and 10.00, the below-defined areas shall be opened effective as of sunrise on August 20, 2025, for the harvest of softshell clams (*Mya arenaria*) for depuration. Harvest within these Conditionally Restricted shellfish growing areas is subject to the limitations of their classification, Conditional Area Management Plan, and predetermined harvest schedule.

**CLASSIFICATION: CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED**

**Status: Open to Shellfishing with Depuration**

**Rainfall <0.25"**

### **N2.1**

#### **Merrimack River Estuary & Northern Plum Island River**

"The waters, flats, and tributaries of the Merrimack River estuary in the City of Newburyport and the Towns of Newbury and Salisbury within the following metes and bounds: south of a line drawn due east from the southeast corner of Allen Creek at the confluence with Black Rock Creek, and south of lines drawn across the mouths of Middle and Morrill Creeks; east of a line

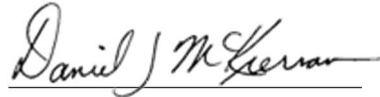
drawn due north from the lighted beacon No. "18" to the bank of the Merrimack River; north of a line running from light No. "18" to buoy No. "15" then to buoy No. "8"; east and south of a line drawn from buoy No. "8" to the gunners blind on the northeast corner of Woodbridge Island; east of line drawn from the bus stop on Water Street near Goodwin Avenue in Newburyport to the westernmost point of Woodbridge Island; north of a line drawn across the mouth of the Basin from 53 Harbor Street to the old stone breakwater at the northeast corner of Old Point, and north of a line drawn due east from the northeastern most corner of Pine Island Creek at the confluence with Plum Island River to the east bank of the Plum Island River".

## **N2.6**

### **Basin Mooring Area**

"The waters, flats, and tributaries of the Merrimack River estuary in the City of Newburyport and the Town of Newbury south of a line drawn across the mouth of the Basin from 53 Harbor Street to the old stone breakwater at the northeast corner of Old Point."

Sincerely,



Daniel J. McKiernan, Director  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

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