

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

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MAURA T. HEALEY Governor KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL Lt. Governor REBECCA L. TEPPER Secretary THOMAS K. O'SHEA Commissioner DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN Director

August 27, 2025

Town of Duxbury Selectboard

Town Hall Duxbury, MA 02332 Town of Kingston Selectboard

Town Hall

Kingston, MA 02364

Town of Plymouth Selectboard

Town Hall

Plymouth, MA 02360

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has determined that the precautionary closure initially issued on August 18, 2025 due to *Vibrio* sp. illnesses linked to oysters harvested from the Duxbury Bay (CCB45) shellfish growing area in the towns of Duxbury and Plymouth, may be **rescinded**. Shellfish growing areas CCB42 – CCB47, placed in the "Closed to Shellfishing" status for oysters only, shall revert to an "**Open to Shellfishing**" status for all bivalve species, subject to Conditional Area Management Plan criteria where applicable.

Under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, Section 74A, the areas listed below will revert to their former status prior to the precautionary closure, or in the case of CONDITIONALLY APPROVED areas, acquire the status dictated by its Conditional Area Management Plan criteria, and local rules and regulations under authority of MGL Chapter 130, section 52, effective sunrise on Thursday August 28th, 2025..

Areas classified as "PROHIBITED" shall remain closed to the harvest of shellfish for direct human consumption.

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.

STATUS: OPEN TO THE TAKING OF SHELLFISH
Subject to conditional area management plan criteria where applicable

The waters, flats and all tributaries of that portion of Plymouth, Kingston, Duxbury Bay within the following Shellfish Growing Areas and municipalities: CCB42 – CCB47 in the towns of Plymouth, Kingston and Duxbury.

DMF advises that town shellfish control authorities continue to verify harvester compliance with the Massachusetts 2025 *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* (*Vp*) Control Plan and Marine Fisheries regulations pertaining to *Vp* management for safe harvest and handling of oysters at 322 CMR § 16.07.

Individual shellfish growing area definition boundaries are mapped on the Division's website at Shellfish classification areas | Mass.gov.

Please contact Alex Boeri (<u>alex.boeri@mass.gov</u>) or Christian Petitpas (<u>Christian.petitpas@mass.gov</u>) for additional information.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: J. Monaghan, C. Baker, J. Chapin, MEP

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Massachusetts Aquaculture Association