



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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



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DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN
Director

August 8, 2025

Town of Westport Selectboard
Town Hall
Westport, MA 02790

Ladies & Gentlemen:

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that a portion of the West Branch of the Westport River, the River Road Relay Area (BB3.28), no longer meets the established criteria for a status of "Open to Shellfishing" due to the transplant of contaminated quahogs from the Taunton River (Permit #188320). The status of this area will be **"Closed to Shellfishing" as of 12:00 noon on Friday, August 8, 2025.**

Therefore, the Division of Marine Fisheries has changed the status of the below defined area to "Closed to Shellfishing" to prohibit the taking of shellfish until subsequent determination by this office reveals that the shellfish are safe for human consumption.

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 130, Section 74A, 75, and 322 CMR 7.01 (7), digging, harvesting, or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest, collect or the possession of shellfish from the below defined area is prohibited.

CLASSIFICATION: APPROVED
SHELLFISH TRANSPLANT CLOSURE
Status: Closed to Shellfishing

BB3.28
River Road Relay Area

"The waters and flats of that portion of the West Branch of the Westport River, west of a line drawn from the "NO SHELLFISHING" sign at #294 River Road to the "NO SHELLFISHING" sign between Grasshopper Point and Judy Island, south of a line drawn from southern end of Great Island to the NO SHELLFISHING" buoy 600' offshore from #294 River Road, and east of a line drawn from the "NO SHELLFISHING" sign on the spit of land located approximately 500' north of #294 River Road northeasterly to the southern end of Great Island."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: J. Monaghan, C. Baker, MEP
C. Petitpas, B. Glenn, DMF
J. Hobill, DEP
FDA, DPH
B. Chase, Westport Shellfish Constable