



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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Director

September 15, 2022

Mayors and Select Boards of the following Cities and Towns:

Essex, Gloucester, Ipswich, Newbury, Newburyport, Rockport, Rowley, and Salisbury

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that Atlantic surf clams (*Spisula solidissima*) from the below-defined areas **no longer contain biotoxins (Paralytic Shellfish Poison - (PSP))** from the phytoplankton *Alexandrium* (spp.) in excess of established standards. These areas remain closed to the harvesting of ocean quahogs (*Arctica islandica*) and carnivorous snails.

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74A and 75 and 322 CMR sections 7.01 (7), 7.02 and 10.00, the PSP closures issued on June 16, 2022, will be partially **rescinded at sunrise on Friday, September 16, 2022**, in the below-defined areas. Atlantic surf clams in areas currently classified as APPROVED and in the “open” status may be harvested on **Friday, September 16, 2022**, 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 or CONDITIONALLY RESTRICTED and in the “open” status are subject to the classification conditions. All previous bacterial closures remain in effect. Ocean quahogs and carnivorous snails remain closed to harvest.

**STATUS: OPEN TO THE HARVEST OF SHELLFISH except ocean quahogs and carnivorous snails. These areas remain closed to the harvesting of ocean quahogs and carnivorous snails.**

### **N1 through N14**

The waters, flats and tributaries in shellfish growing areas N1, N2, N3, N4, N5, N6, N7, N8, N9, N10, N11, N12, N13, and N14 in the Cities of Gloucester and Newburyport, and the Towns of Essex, Ipswich, Newbury, Rockport, Rowley, and Salisbury.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: R. Amidon, DFG  
P. Moran, C. Baker, MEP  
J. Kennedy, G. Bettencourt, DMF  
R. Freed, L. Schifman, DEP  
FDA  
DPH  
Shellfish Constables of the above Cities and Towns