



# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Division of Marine Fisheries

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



MAURA T. HEALEY  
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL  
Lt. Governor

REBECCA L. TEPPER  
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THOMAS K. O'SHEA  
Commissioner

DANIEL J. MCKIERNAN  
Director

September 8, 2025

The Honorable Select Boards and Mayor of the following Commonwealth of Massachusetts coastal municipalities: Dartmouth, New Bedford, Fairhaven and Mattapoisett.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

In accordance with Chapter 130, Section 74A of Massachusetts General Laws, the Division of Marine Fisheries has determined that an additional portion of Buzzards Bay including shellfish growing area BB19 in the towns of Fairhaven and Mattapoisett, no longer meets the established criteria for a status of "Open to Shellfishing" due to combined sewer overflow (CSO) discharges associated with heavy rainfall on September 7, 2025. Shellfish growing areas BB11, BB12, BB14 and BB16 in the towns of Dartmouth, Fairhaven and the city of New Bedford, previously closed due to CSO discharges, were also impacted by the additional CSO discharges and remain under an emergency closure. The status of BB19 shall be changed to **"Closed to Shellfishing"** effective at **sunrise on 9/8/2025** until further notification is made by the Division of Marine Fisheries.

Under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 130, Section 74A, the status of the area identified below shall be changed to **"Closed to Shellfishing"** Digging, harvesting or collecting and/or attempting to dig, harvest or collect shellfish, and the possession of shellfish from the below area is prohibited until further notice.

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

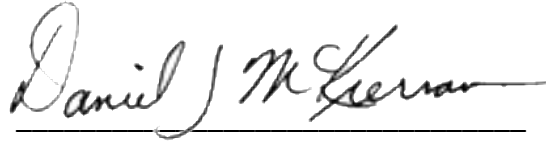
### STATUS: CLOSED TO THE TAKING OF ALL SHELLFISH AS LISTED BELOW

The waters, flats and all tributaries of that portion of Buzzards Bay within the following Shellfish Growing Area and municipalities: BB19 in the towns of Fairhaven and Mattapoisett.

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

Shellfish growing areas BB11, BB12, BB14, BB16 and BB19 shall remain in the “**Closed to Shellfishing**” status until examined by the Division and notification is made that the areas are placed in the open status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel J. McKiernan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Daniel J. McKiernan, Director  
MA Division of Marine Fisheries

cc: J. Monaghan, C. Baker, MEP  
R. Glenn, C. Petitpas, M. Camisa, DMF  
J. Hobill, DEP  
FDA, DPH  
S. Mello, Dartmouth Shellfish Constable  
T. Ringuette, New Bedford Shellfish Constable  
T. Cox, Fairhaven Shellfish Constable  
I. Perry, Mattapoisett Shellfish Department