

## STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES 21 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0021

PATRICK C. KELIHER
COMMISSIONER

## **Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification-Notification of Changes**

June 10, 2024

## This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced

Under the authority of 12 M.R.S.A. § 6172; the Commissioner has made the following change to Area No. 64-A; this notice creates an Exception Area in the Sullivan Harbor and Taunton Bay area of Area No. 64-A (Stockton Springs to Machiasport) allowing the taking of razor clams due to test results for naturally occurring marine biotoxins indicating low or no toxicity. Exceptions to this closure are defined in the legal notice text and are subject to strict sampling requirements that ensure the safety of harvested product. An interactive map that allows the user to zoom in to specific areas can be found on the ME DMR website: Shellfish Closures and Aquaculture Leases Map | Department of Marine Resources (maine.gov). All other existing pollution and biotoxin closures remain in effect.

The boundary descriptions of the area are as follows (struck text is being removed and underlined text is being added):

A. Effective immediately, because of biotoxin, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any mussels, surf/hen clams (*Spisula solidissima* and *Mactromeris polynyma*), razor clams (*Ensis directus*), European oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) or carnivorous snails from the shores, flats and waters of the following areas:

East of a line beginning at the southern tip of Cape Jellison (Stockton Springs) running south to the northeast tip of North Haven Island (North Haven); AND east and north of a line beginning at the easternmost tip of Mullen Head (North Haven) running southeast to the northeast tip of Babbidge Island (North Haven), then running southeast to the eastern tip of Saddleback Ledge (Vinalhaven), then running south to the limit of Maine territorial waters; AND west of a line drawn south from Point of Maine (Machiasport) to the limit of Maine territorial waters.

EXCEPTION 64-A-01: mussels and European oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) may be harvested east of a line beginning at the southern tip of Cape Jellison (Stockton Springs) running south to the northeast tip of North Haven Island (North Haven); AND north and east of a line beginning at the easternmost tip of Mullen Head (North Haven) running southeast to the northeast tip of Babbidge Island (North Haven), then running southeast to the southern tip of Merchant Island (Stonington); AND north and west of a line beginning at the northern tip of Merchant Island (Isle Au Haut) running northeast to Sea Cove Head (Swans Island); AND north and west of a line beginning at North Point (Swans Island), then running northeast to Lopaus Point (Tremont); AND north of a line beginning at the boat ramp in downtown Bar Harbor, then running northeast to the north tip of Sheep Porcupine Island and northeast to the north tip of Burnt Porcupine Island and northeast to the southern shore of Bunkers Cove (South Gouldsboro).

EXCEPTION 64-A-02: mussels and European oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) may be harvested north of a line beginning at the southernmost tip of Ray Point (Milbridge), then running southeast to the

southern tip of Ripley Neck (Harrington), then southeast to the southern tip of Cape Split (Addison); AND north of a line beginning at the southern tip of Moose Neck (Addison), then running south to the southern tip of Tibbett Island (Addison); AND north of a line running northeast from the southern tip of Tibbett Island to the southern tip of Norton Island (Beals); AND north of a line running northeast from the northern tip of Norton Island to the northern tip of Beals Island (Beals), then running east to the north shore of Pig Island (Beals), then running east to the northwest tip of Head Harbor Island (Jonesport); AND west and north of a line running northeast from the northwest tip of Head Harbor to the southern tip of Bonney Point (Roque Island); AND west and north of a line running northeast from the north tip of Great Head (Roque Island) to the northwest tip of Shoppee Point (Roque Bluffs).

EXCEPTION 64-A-03: mussels, European oysters and razor clams (*Ensis directus*) may be harvested north of a line beginning at the southern tip of Hancock Point (Hancock) running northeast to the western tip of Bean Point (Sorrento).

If you have questions, please contact Department of Marine Resources, 194 McKown Point Road, West Boothbay Harbor, Maine 04575-0008, Tel: (207) 633-9500 Email: DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov. During weekends/holidays, contact on duty Marine Patrol Officers through the appropriate State Police barracks: from New Hampshire border to Brunswick, barracks 1-800-228-0857; from Cushing/Boothbay to Lincolnville/Belfast area, barracks 1-800-452-4664; from Belfast to Canadian border, barracks 1-800-432-7381. This notice can be viewed on the Department's website at: Maine Growing Area Closures: Shellfish Area Inventory with Legal Notices and Maps | Department of Marine Resources. This information is also recorded on our HOTLINE (207-624-7727 OR 1-800-232-4733).

David W. Miller

Eastern Maine Growing Area Commissioner's Designee

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4:00 PM (Effective Time)