

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

May 3, 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This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced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-B; this notice precautionarily closes Area No. 64-B (Machiasport to Calais) to the taking of mussels, European oysters, razor clams, surf/hen clams and carnivorous snails due to the risk of seasonal contamination by naturally occurring marine biotoxins. 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. All other species may be harvested throughout the region. An interactive map that allows the user to zoom in to specific areas can be found on the ME DMR website: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/maps/index.html 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, European oysters (Ostrea edulis), razor clams (Ensis directus) or surf/hen clams (Spisula solidissima and Mactromeris polynyma) and carnivorous snails from the shores, flats and waters of the following areas:

East of a line drawn south from Point of Maine (Machiasport) to the limit of U.S. jurisdiction; AND west of the U.S./Canadian border to the limit of Maine territorial waters.

EXCEPTION 64-B-01: mussels and European oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) may be harvested south and west of a line beginning at the southern tip of Estes Head (Eastport) running east to the U.S./Canadian border; AND north and west of a line beginning at the northeast tip of West Quoddy Head (Lubec) running east to the U.S./Canadian border.

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: http://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/closures/index.html. This information is also recorded on our HOTLINE (207-624-7727 OR 1-800-232-4733).

David W. Miller

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Eastern Maine Growing Area, Commissioner's Designee

(Effective Time)

PHONE: (207) 624-6550 FAX: (207) 624-6024