

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Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification-Notification of Changes June 24, 2024 This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced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 changes to the Conditional Area Closure Notice: This notice closes areas WJ (CA1), WS (CA1 & CA2), WU (CA1 – CA3), WV (CA1 – CA3), and EC (CA1 & CA2) due to rainfall exceeding one inch in a twenty-four hour period. This notice also closes area WZ (CA1) due to rainfall exceeding three-quarters inch in a twenty-four hour period. All existing pollution and biotoxin closures remain in effect.

Please refer to the specific Area notices for maps and a detailed description of the impacted conditional areas: <u>https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/closures</u>. Reopening dates will change if additional rain or flow events occur. Whenever a Conditional Area is impacted by rainfall AND a WWTP CSO or bypass event, the area remains closed until the WWTP closure is lifted. Always check this notice before harvesting in a rainfall, river flow and/or Waste Water Treatment Plant performance conditional area to determine the open/closed status. All existing pollution and biotoxin closures remain in effect.

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

Rainfall Conditional Closures:

The following areas are closed due to greater than one inch of rainfall in a twenty-four-hour period and will **REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, July 3, 2024.**

<u>Growing Area WS: (CA1 & CA2) – Medomak River, Waldoboro.</u> <u>Growing Area WU: (CA1 – CA3) – Upper Saint George River, Thomaston.</u>

The following areas are closed due to greater than one inch of rainfall in a twenty-four-hour period and will **REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS, July 8, 2024.**

Growing Area WJ: (CA1) – Harraseeket River, Freeport.

<u>Growing Area WV: (CA1 & CA2, CA3) – Weskeag River, South Thomaston and Wheeler Bay, St. George.</u> Growing Area EC: (CA1 & CA2) – Fish Creek and Greenlaw Cove, Deer Isle.

The following area is closed due to greater than three-quarters inch of rainfall in a twenty-four-hour period and will **REOPEN EFFECTIVE 00:01 HOURS**, July 8, 2024.

Growing Area WZ: (CA1) North Haven Salt Pond.

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: <u>https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/closures</u>. This information is also recorded on our HOTLINE (207-624-7727 OR 1-800-232-4733).

Benjamin Wahle Marine Resource Scientist Commissioner's Designee

3:00 PM (Effective Time)