

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 6, 2024

This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Under the authority of 12 M.R.S.A. § 6172; the Commissioner has made the following changes to Growing Area WF, Little River (Biddeford) to East Point (Biddeford). This notice reclassifies the southern portion of Fortunes Rocks Beach from Approved to Restricted due to water quality no longer meeting the approved standard. 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/fisheries/shellfish/shellfish-closures-and-aquaculture-leases-map. All 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):

Prohibited: Effective immediately, because of pollution, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, mussels or whole or roe-on scallops taken from the shores, flats and waters of the following Prohibited areas:

- P1. East Point to South Point (Biddeford): southwest from the tip of East Point, Fletcher Neck (Biddeford) to the south tip of South Point, Fletcher Neck (Biddeford).
- P2. Fortunes Rocks to Timber Island (Biddeford): west of a line beginning at the point of land to the east of Elizabeth Road (Biddeford), at the end of Fortunes Rocks; then running southwest to the east tip of Hoyt Neck (Biddeford); then running southwest to the easternmost tip of Timber Point (Biddeford); then running to the eastern most point on Timber Island (Biddeford); AND east of a line beginning at the western most point of land on Timber Point running south to the northernmost point of land on Timber Island (Biddeford).

Restricted: Effective immediately, because of pollution, it shall be unlawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, mussels or whole or roe-on scallops (from aquaculture leases with an MOU only) from the shores, flats and waters of the following Restricted area without a special MDMR permit:

R1. Fortunes Rocks Beach (Biddeford): north and west of a line beginning at the point of land to the east of Elizabeth Road, at the end of Fortunes Rocks; then running northeast to the end of Beach Road.

Approved: All other shores, flats and waters not described in the above sections are Approved and it is lawful to dig, take or possess any clams, quahogs, oysters, mussels or whole or roe-on scallops (from aquaculture leases with an MOU only) when in the open status. For current status, please refer to the Biotoxin and Emergency Closure Notices on the DMR website: https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/closures

A. Growing Area WF.

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

Bryant Lewis

Western Maine Growing Area Supervisor

Commissioner's Designee

1:30 PM (Effective Time)

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