

PATRICK C. KELIHER COMMISSIONER

Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification – Notification of Changes

June 21, 2024 This notice is in effect until repealed or replaced.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 Growing Area WW, Owls Head Light (Owls Head) to Cape Jellison (Stockton Springs). This notice reclassifies the Restricted areas in Mill Pond and Stockton Harbor from Restricted to Approved due to water quality 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. Northern Long Cove (Searsport): north of a line beginning at a red painted post, located on the western shore of Long Cove, approximately 830 feet south of the head of the cove, then running east-northeast across Long Cove to a red painted post located on the opposite shore.
- P2. Long Cove (Searsport): north of a line beginning at the south tip of Moose Point (Searsport), then running east to the south tip of Sears Island; AND west of a line beginning at a red painted post located on the western shore of Long Cove, beyond the end of Station Avenue, then running in a southeasterly direction to an unnamed point of land on the west shore of Sears Island, approximately 2500 feet south of the southwest end of the causeway.
- P3. Belfast Bay (Searsport, Northport): west of a line beginning at the southern tip of Moose Point (Searsport) then running south to a red painted post located at the northernmost point on the south side of Kelly Cove (Northport).
- P4. West Penobscot Bay: west of a line beginning at the eastern tip of Great Spruce Head (Northport) continuing northeast to the northern end of Ram Island (Islesboro) then continuing northwest to a red painted post located on the south side of Kellys Cove (Northport).
- P5. Rockport, Camden and Lincolnville Shore: west of a line beginning at the southeastern end of Deadman Point, Rockport, and running northeast approximately 7,000 yards to the "C1" navigation aid located at Dillingham Ledge, Camden; then running northeast approximately

8,000 yards to the RN"2" navigation marker located at Haddock Ledge, Lincolnville; then running northwest to the prominent pier on the eastern tip of an unnamed point, approximately 102 yards from the end of Harbor Drive, Lincolnville.

P6. Rockland Harbor (Rockland): inside and westerly of a line drawn from the shore end of the breakwater along the breakwater to the headlight, thence in a straight line to the Owl's Head lighthouse.

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. Mill Pond (Stockton Springs): east of the Cape Jellison Road causeway.
- R2. Stockton Harbor (Searsport and Stockton Springs): north of a line beginning at a red painted post located on the shore of Stockton Harbor (Searsport), approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the Searsport/Stockton Springs town line, then running east-northeast to a red painted post located on a prominent unnamed point of land southwest of the causeway to Cape Jellison (Stockton Springs); AND southwest of a line beginning at a red painted post located on a prominent unnamed point of land southwest of the causeway to Cape Jellison (Stockton Springs); AND southwest of the causeway to Cape Jellison (Stockton Springs); then running northwest across the mouth of Mill Cove approximately 1500 feet to the granite ruins on an unnamed prominent point of land.

Conditionally Approved (Seasonal): Effective immediately, because of seasonal 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 Conditionally Approved area(s) during the closed dates:

- CA1. Stockton Harbor (Stockton Springs): northeast of a line beginning at a red painted post located on the shore of Stockton Harbor (Searsport), approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the Searsport/Stockton Springs town line, then running southeast to a red painted post located on the Cape Jellison shore (Stockton Springs), beyond the end of Village Drive; AND south of a line beginning at a red painted post located on the shore of Stockton Harbor (Searsport), approximately 0.6 miles southwest of the Searsport/Stockton Springs town line, then running east-northeast to a red painted post located on a prominent unnamed point of land southwest of the causeway to Cape Jellison (Stockton Springs) (closed May 1st through November 15th).
- CA2. Ducktrap River (Lincolnville): northwest of a line beginning at a prominent pier on the eastern tip of an unnamed point, approximately 102 yards from the end of Harbor Drive (Lincolnville) running northeast to a red painted post on the shore approximately 500 yards west of the end of Fire Road 3 "FR3" (Northport) (closed July 1st through September 30th).

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 WW.

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: <u>DMRPublicHealthDiv@maine.gov</u>. 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

3:45 PM (Effective Time)