



PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

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

December 6, 2017

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Under the authority of 12 M.R.S.A. § 6172; the Commissioner has made the following change to Area No. 1001, Carnivorous Snails (Maine Coast): This change updates the format of the Area No. 1001 closure and cites biotoxin closures generally instead of Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning specifically. All existing pollution and biotoxin closures remain in effect.

Effective immediately, because of the natural presence of the marine biotoxin tetramine, it shall be unlawful to take or possess any species of whelk or carnivorous snails from all Maine shores, flats, and waters, including offshore waters of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ/200 mile limit), from the New Hampshire border to the Canadian border.

EXCEPTION: The common Northern whelk, also known as the waved whelk (*Buccinum undatum*); the Stimpson's whelk (*Colus stimpsoni*) and the common moon snail (*Euspira heros*) do not have tetramine toxicity and therefore may be harvested in all Maine shores, flats, and waters, unless otherwise prohibited by a regional biotoxin closure for carnivorous snails (Areas No. 100-A, 100-B, 64-A and 64-B.

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/pollution.html>. This information is also recorded on our HOTLINE (207-624-7727 OR 1-800-232-4733).

Sincerely,

Kohl Kanwit
Commissioner's Designee – Director, Bureau of Public Health

3:30 PM
(Effective Time)